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How Uncle Sam Lost Sixty-four Dollars.
Charles Fort.

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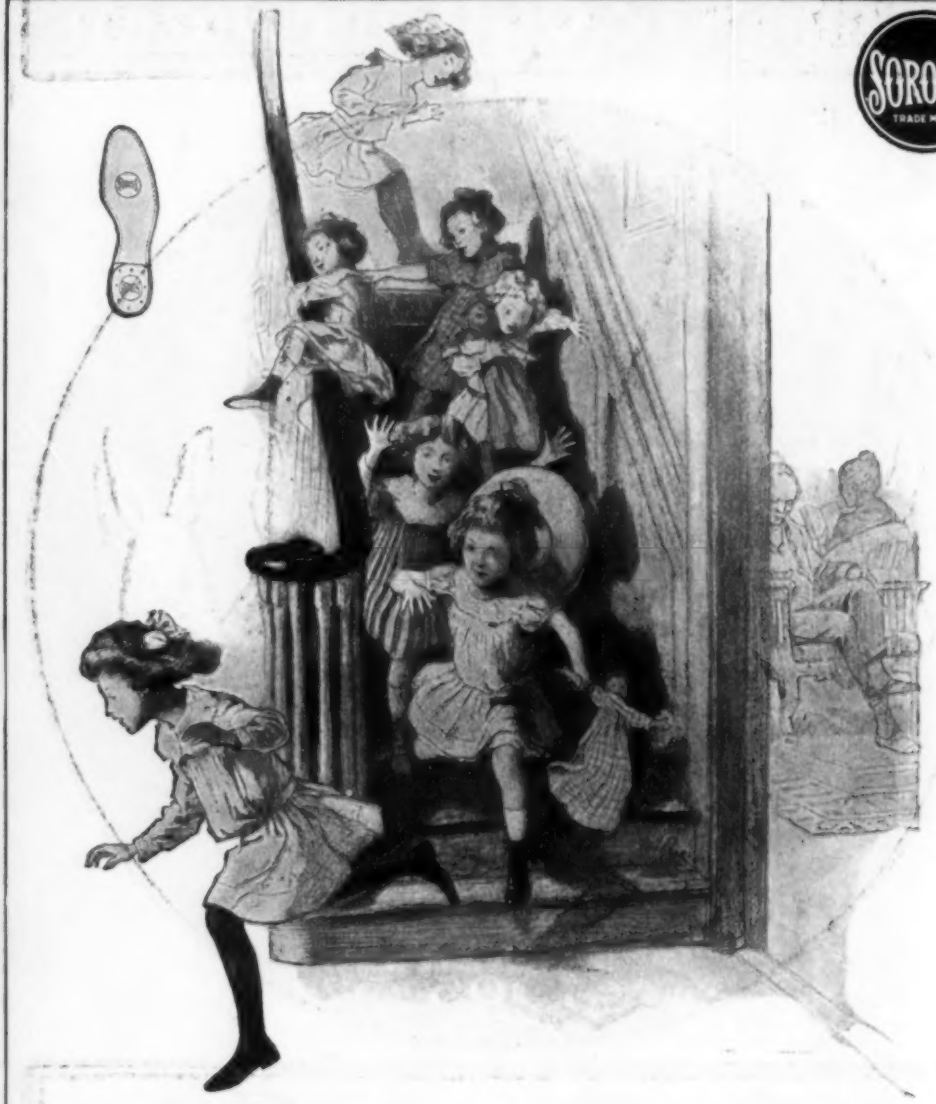

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The Black Cat

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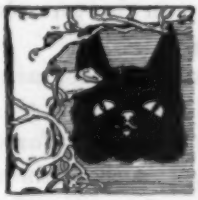
The Lost Pasture Lot.*

BY BIRDSALL JACKSON.



FULL of sunshine was the June morning when Uncle 'Bijah Thompson drove slowly homeward in his rickety old calash-top wagon. Charley, the iron-gray, shambled on in front, drawing the vehicle just fast enough to keep it ahead of the cloud of dust they were raising. He had long since learned that this was the only condition set upon his progress and rolled along in his usual over-fed complacency.

Wild roses besprinkled the hedges, filling the air with fragrance, and the trees looming over them cast patches of shadow across the roadway. Content rested upon the fields of rank-growing grain, content hung in the pellucid air above them, and content reigned in the heart of Uncle 'Bijah.

On they went, rattling down over the little bridge at the foot of the hill, then up again on the other side, the sage Charley meanwhile with one ear cocked forward in reconnaissance and the other inclined backward to assure himself that the whip stayed in the socket where it properly belonged, and old Uncle 'Bijah sitting back comfortably and stroking his patriarchal beard with satisfaction.

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The long rows of corn on the hillside enfiladed past them, first diagonally ahead, then straightway at the side, then diagonally again behind. Then the quince-tree hedge near the homestead swung into line, and beyond this came the whitewashed palings between which Aunt Mary's peonies thrust their beauty upon the grateful world.

When they drew up at the barn, the plethoric Charley heaved a deep sigh of relief and rattled the harness with a vigorous shake, expressive, doubtless, of his hope that some day it might come to pieces and fall from him utterly; and Uncle 'Bijah rose slowly, lowered his lanky frame to the ground, straightened it and began to unharness, whistling and chuckling softly to himself.

"Goodness gracious! 'Bijah — Why couldn't you have stopped at the house first and told me about it and unhitched afterwards? You are the provokingest man I ever lived with."

Aunt Mary, with a blue and white checked apron thrown over her head, was coming toward him with eager steps.

"Didn't know you had lived with any other man," said he, turning away from her to lead the horse into his stall.

She stood looking after him patiently, almost pathetically. Forty years of household care had stamped the crowfeet at the corners of her eyes and set the dark circles beneath them, forty years of hard labor had given her shoulders the heavy droop typical of the farmer's wife. Her voice trembled with anxiety when she spoke again, as he came out.

"Tell me, 'Bijah, quick. I can't wait any more. I've waited so many years. How did you make out?"

"All right."

"Then it's sold?"

"Yes, contract signed and money enough paid down to make it good."

"And the price, 'Bijah, the price?"

"What we agreed on before I went."

"Forty thousand dollars," — she spoke in a half whisper, as though scarce comprehending, now that the fact was accomplished, "forty thousand dollars! What will we ever do with all that money?"

"Now ain't that just like a woman? Wishes for something,

and works for it, and prays for it thirty odd years, and when it does come, 'What'll we ever do with it?' says she. Mary, I'm 'most ashamed of you. We'll do what the rest are doin' with it, the ones we've envied all these years."

"But how did you ever get him to pay that much?"

"Well, I've always been pretty good at a business transaction. You know that. If I hadn't been, that five-thousand-dollar mortgage would be right here on this place, as it was when we started."

She looked up at him with silent assent.

"After talkin' with him a few minutes I could see he wanted it bad, so I asked my price and stuck to it. 'You're asking too much,' says he. 'You don't have to pay it,' says I. 'It's only worth about half that to you,' says he. 'But you're the one that's buyin', Mr. Hilton,' says I. So he went up five thousand at a time till he got there."

"Well, I'm glad it's settled," said Aunt Mary. "But it'll be hard to leave the old home after all, some ways, won't it, 'Bijah? It'll be 'most like losin' one of the family. Think of what we've enjoyed here. I shall always love the place for that, no matter where we go."

"Why don't you look at it the other way?" he remarked quickly. "Why don't you think of what we've suffered here?"

"Well, 'Bijah, if I do, I'm not sure but what I love it just as much for that too."

"I guess the forty thousand will make us whole for all we leave behind," said he.

They were now walking together toward the kitchen door. A flock of chickens trooped after them expectantly. A robin which had been hopping along on the white palings in front took wing, and, alighting in the top of the big cherry tree by the gate, swayed up and down with blithe carol. Near the outer end of the grape trellis at the rear porch they stopped and looked about them, — at the fields of flourishing grain below and the corn on the hillside, at the long line of five-rail fence Uncle 'Bijah had set upon his boundaries in the beginning, at the orchard he had planted soon after, pruned for a score of years, and gathered fruit from almost as much longer, at the piece of woodland he bought later to make

his possessions complete. After a long pause, she turned to him again.

"Well, 'Bijah," said she, "I'm only sorry David couldn't have known of this. He was always talkin' about fixin' it so's you wouldn't have to work so hard. If this had only happened before David — before David — went."

There was a lowering of her voice toward the end, and a tremor upon the last word, the word she invariably substituted for that which she could never bring herself to utter.

He turned to her and spoke gently, even soothingly.

"He was just as anxious about you. And whatever else comes out of this for us, you shall never work so hard again as you have here, Mary, never again. I'll start in a day or so to look up a place for us to move to and we'll go right away."

And with hearts filled with joy, the old couple passed through the low doorway into the kitchen and thence into the sitting room beyond. The slowly moving squares of brightness on the floor by the eastern windows of the little room had not seemed so bright before in thirty years, and the clock upon the mantel-shelf, the one with the pastoral scene on the front of the case and Gothic pinnacles on its corners, had never ticked so cheerily.

Many were their plans for the future; the purchase of some small homestead near by with sufficient acreage to keep the old man busy, yet not enough to be a care to him; a house more comfortable and convenient than she had been used to; and, mayhap, some of the trips about the country which they had heard spoken of by others but had always considered wholly beyond their means. It was indeed an eventful day and a happy one for Aunt Mary and Uncle 'Bijah.

"'Bijah," said Aunt Mary as he came in one afternoon several weeks later, "I thought you were goin' to look up a place. We'll have to go right off, now that the deed has been passed."

"I know it, Mary, but Mr. Hilton said we needn't hurry and I wanted to get our stock sold first. It's mighty exhaustin' work to sell live stock if you care somethin' about 'em and want to make sure they'll all have good homes. When they come after ole Whitenose this mornin' and led her away, and Charley stuck his head out of his stall and looked around at all the other empty ones and

then at me, as much as to say, 'This is a nice fix you're leavin' me in, here alone,' I don't think I ever felt so tired in my whole life."

"You do look played out, 'Bijah, and it's been hard for you, I know. But we're sure it's all for the best, and the thought of it will soon wear off after we leave. I think we'd better move as soon as we can find a place."

"Yes," said he, "so do I. I'll start right out tomorrow."

Every clear day for several weeks thereafter, the old calash-top propelled the sage Charley down the hill until its wheels rattled on the little bridge at the foot; whereat, the somnambulist awoke and a cloud of dust arose in the midsummer air, while the countryside for miles about was filled with the noise of their journeyings. From these pilgrimages, Uncle 'Bijah invariably returned despondent, but still hopeful.

Through some unknown agency, possibly that of the Gipsom girls, who had now been girls about thirty-five years, and who conducted privately a very reliable information bureau, it became known that Uncle 'Bijah and Aunt Mary would buy a place, if one could be found to suit them. After that, it was not through lack of neighborly advice that the purchase was not made forthwith.

On several occasions, upon receiving reports of an especially encouraging tenor, they set out together, eager in their quest and flushed with hope. But they were continually disappointed, and the summer waned away without any decisive action.

Others came to gather the crops Uncle 'Bijah had planted, whereat the patriarch, his round of accustomed duty steadily contracting, and for want of something better to do, went out to watch them at work. Nor could he forbear telling them how the harvest should be managed to best advantage. And when they answered him lightly, or not at all, and gave no heed to his counsel, the old man passed slowly homeward along the fence, steadying himself with his hand at the top rail, and betook himself querulously to his rocking chair for solace and rest.

"Who'd ever thought," said he, "Who'd ever thought, Mary, that we'd live to see our place run over like this by a pack of numskulls who don't know a wheel-barrow from a mowin' machine? It makes me sweat all over to look at 'em. It tires me more than the work used to."

"Well, then, 'Bijah, stay away from 'em till we go. We'll be sure to find something to suit before long. You know I've been ready and anxious to leave these three months past."

"Not a bit more so than I have," the old man blazed. "You just show me a place that's laid out half-way sensibly for comfort and convenience, like this one, and a house where I won't feel like a cat in a strange garret, and a well of water that comes anywheres near the taste of ours, and see how long I'll stay here."

Then followed several more days of fruitless search, and finally one at the close of which Uncle 'Bijah drove in wearing such an expression of satisfaction that Aunt Mary hurried out the kitchen door to intercept him.

"No, Mary," said he, "I haven't found what we want, but I've done the next best thing. I've got Mr. Hilton's word that we can stay here all winter if we want to. It seems he's goin' to turn the farm into a place where they play this new game,—knock a little ball as far as they can with a club, then walk after it, so's to knock again, so's to walk again. On the way home," he added, "I stopped at the doctor's."

"Well, what did he say?"

"Said I was as sound as a dollar, and good for ten years at least. Only one sign of danger. 'And what's that, doctor?' I asked. 'I don't hardly know how to tell you,' says he. 'You probably know already better than I do. It's your feeling that you ought to come here, or rather, it's whatever is back of that feeling, what I might call the germ of the idea that you need me.' 'Well, doctor,' I says, goin' for my hat, 'if that's all you can find wrong, I've got the germ of an idea that I don't need you at all.'"

"For my part, 'Bijah, I never did think it amounted to anything, anyway," was Aunt Mary's comment.

With the coming of early autumn, the long rows of corn on the hillsides went into bivouac, and the grain-stacks in the adjoining fields, although lacking the military erectness Uncle 'Bijah exacted, stood guard above them.

For the most part, the old man kept closely to the house and his chair in the sitting room, and, apparently, gave small heed to the changes, whether because he had no wish to note them, or possibly could not bear to do so.

But, late one gray afternoon in November, he went out and walked slowly through the fields, as had been his wont after the crops were gathered and all made snug for the winter. He came back at a shambling half-run with one hand at his breast. Aunt Mary saw him, ran out, and helped him in to his chair.

"Why, 'Bijah! What in the world is the matter?" she cried.

"The pasture lot!" he panted. "The pasture lot! It's gone! And the brook! The brook went too!"

He sank back wearily into the chair with closed eyes.

"You know the place, Mary, where I run the fence across the bend of the brook, so's they could go down and drink whenever they wanted to. Old Whitenose was there, just like she used to be. And when I went towards her with my hand out, in a flash, she was gone; and I was walkin' across *on dry land*. And the fence was gone, and nothin' left but one broad, open field."

She stood looking down at him in amazement and solicitude.

"There, there, 'Bijah! Don't go on so! You've run and got yourself overheated, and it's made you light-headed. They've taken down the fence and filled in the bend, I s'pose, in their improvements."

The old man sat for several minutes in silence. Then his faculties drew together, and, his mind slowly readjusting itself, the smouldering fire within him blazed up.

"Improvements!" he sneered. "Improvements! The fools! They've ruined the best pasture lot in the four townships! I'm goin' right off to see Mr. Hilton about it."

"Oh, don't, 'Bijah. Please don't do that. You can't change it any now. You'll only tire yourself all out again for nothin'!"

But, despite Aunt Mary's tearful protests, he rose, dragged himself to the barn, harnessed the old horse, and drove out.

It was nearly dark when he drew rein at the door of the Hilton country-seat and asked for the proprietor. But when the latter, who was just home from his afternoon on the links, came out and greeted him pleasantly, Uncle 'Bijah sat bent over in the dusk, fumbling at his whip and at a loss how to explain his errand.

"I thought you ought to know," he began, finally, "that somebody has taken down the fences and filled in the brook and ruined the pasture lot."

"I do know it — in fact, I ordered it done." Mr. Hilton's voice suggested good-natured raillery.

"Mebbe you didn't know it was the best pasture lot to be found in a day's drive," suggested the patriarch.

"Hadn't a doubt of it," said the other. "And now it's going to be a part of the best golf links to be found in a day's drive, which, to my way of thinking, is a good deal better."

The impatient Charley lurched forward a little just then, and the light streaming from one of the front windows struck full upon Uncle 'Bijah's face.

"Great God! Man, don't look like that!" Mr. Hilton's tone and manner changed completely. "I wouldn't knowingly bring that look into a man's face for anything in this world. And I won't have my pleasure paid for so dearly as that by anybody. I'd rather lose ten times the few thousands I've spent on your farm than to have you feel so badly about what I'm doing with it. I insist on transferring it back to you immediately."

The old man's lank form straightened up in the seat as though a bullet had struck him.

"Not if you offered me twice what you paid for it to take it again. You don't know 'Bijah Thompson. I asked my price, didn't I? And you paid every cent I asked. I never took water on a business deal in my life, nor went into one without lookin' on all sides of it. I know I've had spells of feelin' tired lately, but there ain't anything the matter with me. And if there was, could ownin' a few acres of land more or less make me worse or better? No, Mary and I have acted for the best in this. It's just what we planned and agreed on. Why, Mr. Hilton, Mary and I have *prayed* for this over thirty years. And now we've got the chance, do you think I could ever look her in the face again and tell her I hadn't been man enough to stand by her in it? All the same," he concluded, "it's good of you to offer it, and I'm glad to know that dealin' in stocks don't keep a man from bein' a gentleman."

"Nor does farming," reciprocated Mr. Hilton smilingly.

Whereupon they shook hands, and Uncle 'Bijah drove homeward. Aunt Mary awaited him at the barn, helped him from the wagon, half-carried him to the house, and, with much difficulty, succeeded in getting him up-stairs to bed.

There the old man fretted for several days like a petulant child, now sitting up in bed to see from the window what was going on about the place, now sinking back again in wearisome complaint, assenting to his wife's plea that his interest was a passing one, but invariably reverting to the same monotonous theme.

But finally, one bright, keen December morning, as Aunt Mary sat at her little sewing table in the sitting room, she was astonished to hear steps in the stair-hall adjoining, and, before she could rise, the door opened, and Uncle 'Bijah stood before her, fully dressed, and as erect as in his prime. She was still more astonished when he walked with strong, firm step to his chair by the window.

"Why, 'Bijah! I never was so taken back in my life. I'm afraid this'll be too much for you. I wouldn't have believed you had strength enough to get half way here."

"Well, Mary, I didn't feel as if I could at first, but you see I *had* to come. Why, I couldn't see down towards the orchard at all from the bed-room window. But I'm better, now I've got here. And stronger, yes, a good deal stronger. Only this pain gnaws me some here, in the side. But I'm gettin' used to that, now. That'll never kill me. Oh, I'm good for ten years yet. Don't you worry about me. And I *had* to get up, so's to see if everything was all right at the orchard. I wish you'd come over, Mary, and run up that shade. Mebbe I've been dreamin' up there, but for several days I've been hearin' a sound, kinder dull and heavy, like clods fallin' onto something down in the ground. And this mornin' it was stranger and worse, more like something, or mebbe, *somebody bein' struck by an axe.*"

Aunt Mary laid the white kerchief she was hemming upon the sewing table, crossed the room to the window, and raised the shade. At the first glance, the old man's hand went to his breast, and his whole body seemed to droop and shrivel before her.

"Oh, Mary! They're gone! The ones we set out first! All we planted before Davy was born! Don't you remember how he used to laugh and hold up his fat little arms to the blossoms? And how he cried one day, and ran and struck one of the trees with his fist, ''Tause you fwowed 'at apple down onto my papa's nose,' says he? That was Davy every time, lookin' out for his daddy."

"Oh, don't, 'Bijah! Please don't! I can not stand it!"

But he heard not, or heeded not. "And now they're cuttin' the ones he and I set out together. 'For your use, father, in your old age,' says he. 'No, for yours, when you marry and start out,' says I, and argued with him, not knowin' he was right."

"'Bijah! Stop! Look here! Look at me!"

But the old man could see naught else but one thing. He had half risen from his chair, with one hand on the arm, and with the other plucking alternately at his beard and breast.

"But the old tree between! They've left that! That's the one his little swing used to hang from. Put it there myself, so's I could watch him from the corn-lot. Back and forth, back and forth, he used to go, in the shade and out again, like a shuttle. See! They're goin' right past it. They won't touch that one! They wouldn't dare!"

His voice fell to a whisper, a tense, incisive whisper, that pierced the stillness of the room like a dagger.

"Why, if they tried to cut that one, Davy'd *come back* and stop 'em. O, Mary! Look!" He pointed with one trembling hand. "Look! They've turned towards it again! And *he* is there *now!* And they're swingin' for him with their axes! O my God!"

The old man sank heavily into his chair, threw back his head, and sighed deeply. Aunt Mary bent over him for a moment in silence, then tottered in bewilderment to her chair.

. . . . . .

On the third day thereafter, the astute Charley, neighing his protest against hunger and neglect, drew to his aid one of Mr. Hilton's workmen, whose curiosity led him thence to the farm-house. He went in at the kitchen entrance, crossed the room softly and swung wide the inner door. At one side of the sitting room, an old woman with bright eyes and shrunken features was swaying to and fro in her chair, droning weirdly as though to a child held in her arms, while at the other side, the motionless figure of the patriarch sat by the window and stared out with stony eyes.

How Uncle Sam Lost Sixty-four Dollars.*

BY CHARLES FORT.

SIMON BOBBLES had ways of his own, so you must not be astonished at anything done by him.

Said Simon: "Ain't I the strange feller, though! I'm that set on travelling! I'd like to be in Denver, just to say I was there. I'd like to go out to see Budd Lobe in San Francisco. I ain't got any use for Budd and he ain't any for me, but I'd like to go out just to say I was there. I'd like to go to Washington. Don't care about the Capitol and wouldn't be bothered with the Monument; don't care about generals and senators, but just want to say I was there."

Simon made a discovery. Said he: "It costs money to travel!"

Simon was given to wisdom. Said he: "There's always ways of doin' things." And this was his way:

The postman hastened from corner to corner, collecting mail. And there on a letter-box sat Simon Bobbles, perched comfortably, swinging his legs.

"Hey, young fellow," said the indignant postman, "You mustn't do your lounging there! The Government ain't in the furniture business. Do you hear?"—for Simon said nothing, but swung his legs indolently,—"You mustn't loaf there, so take a jump for yourself."

"But I can't," answered Simon. "I can't move, and by rights I can't talk, either. I'm mail. I'm mail. See?"

MR. BUDD LOBE,
234 Pearl Street,
San Francisco,
Cal.

Upon his forehead was a postage stamp. Upon his coat was marked in huge letters the above address.

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"Don't talk nonsense," said the impatient postman. "And you'd better not interfere with the post-office, either." He called to a policeman.

Now, Officer O'Glory was a new policeman, and, as he had been in trouble several times because of arrests made too promptly, he was a careful officer. Not grasping the facts of the case, he approached, glancing at a little book of rules.

"I'm mail," said the unruffled Simon. "He can take me or leave me. I'm addressed and stamped and I don't care what he does about it."

"Stamped!" cried the wrathful postman. "Why, he weighs at least two hundred pounds. And for that he's got one miserable two-cent stamp on him. Officer, are you going to take this fellow?"

Officer O'Glory fluttered the pages of his book of rules. Unfortunately, the compiler had neglected to foresee such a situation.

"When in doubt, use your own judgment." That was the only suggestion of application.

No; there was another:

"Never permit yourself to be thought at a loss."

"I can't touch him, if he's mail," declared Officer O'Glory. "You don't get me before the Commissioner for picking parcels off the tops of letter-boxes."

"But how far would a two-cent stamp carry him?" shouted the postman.

And Simon answered: "I ain't supposed to talk, 'cause I'm mail, but you know that so long as there's one stamp on anything you've got to take it. Wasn't there any on me, I wouldn't go; but so long as there's two cents paid, you've got to take me for the rest to be paid at my destination."

"Well, I'll be registered!" cried the postman. "But Mr. Budd Lobe will be glad to see you! How are you mailing? You're first-class postage, I suppose?"

"I'm always first-class goods," answered Simon.

The postman calculated rapidly.

"Two cents an ounce or fraction thereof. Sixteen to the pound — two hundred pounds — sixty-four dollars! But won't Mr. Budd Lobe be glad to see you! Come on, then."

"Carry me," said Simon. "I'm sort of a ward o' the Government and must travel luxoorious. I'm mail, and can't walk."

And with many a gasp and many a groan, the postman staggered to the post-office with Simon resting comfortably on his back.

"He's mail!" gasped the postman, falling into the office with his parcel.

"He is!" said the postmaster. "Well, he don't go here. He's live stock, and Uncle Sam isn't carrying live stock. Turn him out."

"That'll be all right," Simon agreed; "turn me out. I'm mail and ain't supposed to talk, but my sender'll sue you. There ain't a court in the land would uphold you. You just try to classify a human bein' as live stock and hear the kick that'll go up. There's the Wimmen's Clubs always something frenzied to find something to kick about. You let them hear you call them and other human bein's live stock!"

"To — to California with him!" roared the postmaster. So there was nothing to do but to accept Simon and cancel his stamp. The indignant cancellation clerk dipped his fist into indelible ink and punched the stamp on Simon's forehead, while up and down his clothes "postage due" stamps were pasted.

Neatly done up in a sack all to himself, Simon travelled across the continent. He saw nothing of Philadelphia and nothing of Chicago.

"Don't want to," said Simon; just want to say I been there. Must go to Washington, too. There's sights there. Don't want them; just want to say I been there." And, having a plentiful supply of tablets secured from a vegetarian, he subsisted as well as any vegetarian, secluded in the mail car until the brakeman cried: "San Francisco!" and another postmark was stamped on his forehead.

It was the early morning delivery. The postman went up a stoop, whistling and crying: "Lobe! Budd Lobe! Any one know Lobe?"

Budd Lobe knew Lobe and he hastened down the stairs.

"Sixty-four dollars due!" said the postman.

"Why, if it isn't Simon Bobbles!" cried Budd. "How are you, Simon? What on earth are you doing here? And what's

that on your forehead? What kind of a stamp album are you wearing?"

Said the postman: "Sixty-four dollars, please!"

Then Budd Lobe understood.

"What? For Simon Bobbles? He ain't worth it. Sorry, Simon, but you know you aren't worth anything like sixty-four dollars."

"I know it," Simon admitted, and mumbling something about being delighted to see him, Budd ran down the stoop, and rushed around the corner, flying from so much unpaid postage.

"Well, if this isn't a sell!" exclaimed the postman. "Now what's to become of you?"

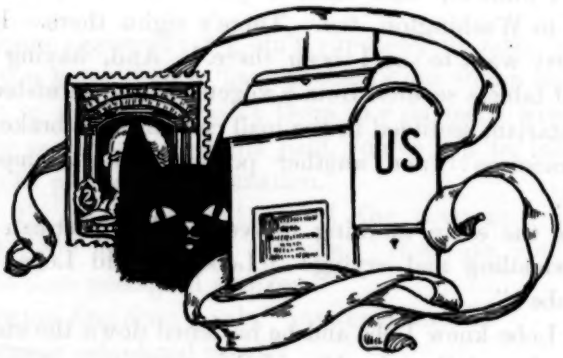
"Kind o' like to see Washington," drawled Simon. "Anyway, I've got it to say that I've been to 'Frisco."

And with the Government at a loss of sixty-four dollars, he was forwarded to the Dead Letter Office.

A clerk rudely tore off his coat. It was the "envelope" of the "dead letter." In a vest pocket was a card bearing the name and home address of Simon Bobbles.

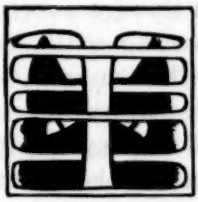
They sent him home from the Dead Letter Office.

Says Simon: "There's always ways of doin' things. Been everywhere! Didn't see much places, but just the same can say I was there."



The Viper's Sting.*

BY JAMES H. PIERCE.



HE train came out of the darkness, hissing with impatience at the delay, and stopped with a jerk as the last spark dropped from the protesting brake-shoes.

Sheriff Crawford, in the chair-car, stirred uneasily, and then settled in a more comfortable position, and a man who was standing in the aisle stole silently away, with short, halting steps.

The brakeman swore softly to himself and called many maledictions upon the head of the "lazy lout" on No. 3 who had not opened the switch, and the crew of No. 3 cursed the crew of No. 8 for delaying them three minutes. Number 3 went into the moonlit west and No. 8 faded into the plain to the eastward, and the place was left alone save for the lizards, toads, and owls, that make of that sunbaked land a home. No; not alone. Something struggled awkwardly to its feet, and the light of the stars disclosed a man with a "fishplate" in his hands. He dropped and swung his feet across the rail and the iron rose and fell in frenzied strokes. Soon he rose and, careful only to step on the ties, also faded into the sand and brush.

The lights of Seligman appeared like low-lying stars, the long, wailing whistle from the engine as the train approached the station caused the sheriff to stir, the brakeman called out some unintelligible jargon, the officer again stirred, stretched, rubbed his eyes open, jumped wildly to his feet, and rushed madly up and down the car. His prisoner was gone. The brakeman was neither polite nor patient — in fact, he was secretly elated — for he had worn bracelets himself.

"Hum-m-m-m! Must have dropped off at Chino — last stop — five miles back — walk, or you might charter a hand-car — run

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nuthin' back; this ain't no freight train," drawled the brakeman, and then, as Crawford's words began to be personal: "Say, look here, my frien', I'm not takin' care of your prisoners, I've got somethin' better to do, and you go a little slow with your chin music. I-don't-care-a-tinker's-cuss-who-you-are; if you get fresh wit me I'll take a fall out of you. See?"

Several miles west of Chino, where the road cut through a rock-strewn ridge, the hunted hesitated, and, finally turning south, he vanished into the shadows. Carefully he stepped from rock to rock, leaving no sign that a man had lately passed that way.

The hunter found that the hunted had dropped to the ground; the marks on the rails told that the shackles were broken; but where had he gone? Did he know the country? Would he strike for the water holes? Nothing could be done until daybreak, and then there was no trail to follow, nothing but dreary wastes of sand. Crawford notified all stations and offered two hundred and fifty dollars reward, without any strings, for Brady. He smiled grimly at the idea of any man trying to escape in that sea of sand and cactus. A man manacled and without water or horse! He'd have him again in a day or two, alive or — dead.

All that day, from a distant ridge, a pair of bloodshot eyes watched the trains approach, pass, and disappear, all apparently in a sea of water. Several freights waited on a passing track and he knew that the key to freedom was there. Sometimes he dozed, but waked again with the cold perspiration standing in every pore — for every buzzard's shadow, every whisper of the breeze in the brush, every clump of brush, every rock, was to the hunted a danger. A "road runner," dodging about in the rocks trying to determine the nature of this invader, dislodged a small stone which, rattling down, sent this hunted wretch into a nervous frenzy.

And thirst! Did any of you who have ridden across this desert with an obsequious porter to bring you water if you were too indolent to go and draw it from the cooler yourself, look out across those sunbaked mesas and wonder what it would be like to be out there under the July sun, the gates of freedom opening to you and the creeping vultures of the law between you and water?

As friendly darkness stole over the sage-brush, he crept down and across the waste and waited. A freight pulled on to the switch, the trainmen passed along towards the engine, and a drink-demented being dashed into the caboose and drank and drank from the water-butt. His thirst partly satisfied, he cast about for something to carry the precious fluid away in, and then his heart hesitated in its even beat. Looking down on him from above was a pair of brown eyes and a voice had said, "Good, wasn't it?" They stared for a second, one pair with compassion in its depths and one with murder — then: "Pard, if you're as hungry as you was dry, there's a bucket of grub under that seat. Don't say anyt'ing, just grab it and slope, der gang 'll be back any minit," and as the figure disappeared into the darkness, there came from the caboose, "Water at the Springs, nineteen miles west." And brown eyes sat back and soliloquized; "Bracelets on and shackles broken; it's Brady. Hell! I had two hun'erd an' fifty in me mit, but den," with a sigh, "I'd only blow it at de Needles, an' liberty is wort' more to Brady den booze to me."

Nineteen miles. You who have ridden that distance from Yampai to Peach Springs, in a passenger coach, did not think it far. With a good horse under you it is just a little unpleasant without water. On foot in the daylight and along the road, you can make it without water, if you are stout of heart and strong of limb. Confine yourself in a stuffy cell for weeks, then run over the rocks and through the cactus in the starlight, blister and cut your feet, have the cactus spines burning and poisoning your legs to your knees. Let every sound, every movement in the moving darkness, be to your distorted imagination a waiting officer. Don't follow the beaten trail, or the railroad, for there are men lurking along the highway, and along the ties, looking for you and the two hundred and fifty dollars reward. Climb into and out of ravines, make wide détours, try to find the railroad which seems to have vanished, watch some shadow that appears to be endowed with life while your heart almost seems to cease its beating. Shun every habitation, or sign of habitation, for fear of your fellow-man. Even the dogs seem to scent you unheard-of distances, and there is no way to stop their snarling. Do all this as Brady did, and live!

Back to the friendly hills went Brady, and at the break of day far north of the Springs in a cavern he rested. The pangs of hunger were added to the pains of thirst, and he had all the day to stay and suffer. Now and then he dropped into a fitful doze and dreamed of banquets and bubbling springs, only to wake half-mad and look out across the shimmering sand and wonder where and how far the Springs were. When the rays of the sun were making long shadows behind the hills, Brady was first conscious of studying idly a bird on a rock. How odd it looked with its red neck and the side-long contemplative glance and,— then a circling object caught his eye, and as it swung just above him and hung suspended for a fleeting instant, determining if the feast were yet ready, reason said, "buzzards" and that came back which put our men on Missionary Ridge, which sends them into the frozen North, or where the Southern Cross burns brightest; wherever there is something to conquer; that bulldog courage that has carried the stars and stripes so many times to victory. He sat up and stared about him. Where was he? Where had he wandered? To the south and west must lie the railroad.

Some time during the following night he found a "cow trail," and in a cow track was some damp earth, and he nursed from the mud a little moisture. Just as the sun rose, footsore and with swollen tongue, he crept into the shade of a rock, and with dim eyes saw, almost below him, the little Arizona town of Peach Springs. With his eyes fixed on those red buildings that to his distorted vision seemed to be drifting slowly away, sleep overcame the pursuer-cursed brain, and it was late when he finally drifted back to water-haunted consciousness and realized that the old spring which he was striving so fiercely to reach was only another dream.

That night a being with its tongue so swollen that it protruded between its teeth, a beast to stand between whom and water meant death to one or both, crept up and lay under where the water dripped, and absorbed the liquid into every pore, and, not knowing or caring why it dripped, could not bless the pumper who had filled the tank to overflowing. He touched the water with his lips; it was his mistress. He let it drip through his fingers; he was a boy again, and playing in the waters of boy-

hood. It meant freedom, and as the word drifted across his vision the first law of nature came back.

A freight stopped at the little station, and the crew threw something off — boxes, ham and bacon. The latter he dare not touch, but a box-cover was loose, and he took a can of beans and tipped the box so that the other cans would roll about as if broken open when thrown from the car. An old canteen was hanging on the wall of the section house; it was hugged deliriously. Food, and a way to carry water — the gates of freedom were wide open! Then came the weary hours of covering his trail, for things were missing, and the gates of Yuma were open behind, and the gates of Paradise opening in front. When morning came Brady was in the hills, and a gentle wind came and smoothed the few marks yet remaining in the sand.

He came again that night, and, listening at a window from which came light and voices, learned that there was five hundred on his head, and the old Wells Fargo two hundred and fifty. He looked at his manacled hands, and the price of his freedom made it the more dear.

He traveled the more rapidly now, for he could go from tank to tank without suffering so very much except from hunger and blistered feet, and they, like the hand that toils, were getting calloused, so he traveled freer each night. From Peach Springs to Hackberry was not bad, because it is a land where, for the desert, water is abundant, but from Hackberry to Kingman only the Creator and Brady knows what he suffered and how he lived.

At Kingman he found what his every effort had been exerted to find, but out on the desert tools are scarce, and if you lose any when you are in the employ of the railroad you have to pay for them, so the tools are locked up. He had a file. It wasn't very sharp, but he could cut the chain and get his hands free, and then it was only a question of time and work to get the irons off his wrists and ankles. The country was rather familiar here, too, and he knew he could leave the railroad at Franconia, reach the Colorado River, go down it into Mexico, and then his mind ran riot.

It is thirty-seven miles from Kingman to Franconia, and when the dark outlines of the few buildings that make the town suddenly

grew out of the darkness and sand the man could not believe the evidence of his own senses, but hunted the signboard, and was even then somewhat doubtful, for the time had passed so quickly in his new freedom that the long miles of greasewood and sand had faded as had all the horrors of the past weary days.

Several miles southwest of Franconia Brady crawled into the shade of a deep arroyo and sought the last day of slumber midst the creeping horrors of the desert. But oblivion would not come to the body and mind now apparently free from bondage. His mind was filled with what he would do with his life, so dearly bought. After trying for some time to drift into unconsciousness, he began to file the shackles from his ankles. The sun was yet two hours high when he climbed to the level of the plain, for he couldn't remain inactive, he must test this new sensation, no dragging iron on his ankles and a corresponding lightness of the heart. He looked about to get his bearings before starting on his joyous trip to the river, — again came that tightening of the heart strings. Out across the brush his eye had caught a moving object; was it a man-hunter? As an animal, first scenting danger, crouches to the ground, so crouched Brady; his hands were clenched and the breath was hissing through his set teeth; was he to lose now?

The hunted animal has not the power to reason his chances of escape, but flees upon the slightest suspicion of discovery until he is cornered, and then fights blindly to the death. Brady studied each and every point; if the officer was cognizant of his being here in the vicinity of the "Needle rocks" flight was out of the question. If the officer was alone and he could spring upon him unawares, the chances were about even, but would an officer be out looking for him alone? He decided to wait and see, and if the man had come here alone then it was just a matter between themselves who would be the victor; if there was more than one, then he could only give a good accounting of himself. Carefully he wrapped an old piece of cloth around his file, to serve as a handle, and like a jaguar watching his prey he waited.

The beast gradually left his face and a puzzled expression came. The object was coming his way, but it was zigzagging about, circling, disappearing in the brush and reappearing going in a new direction, and apparently at times crawling on its knees. Brady

was now on his feet, shading his eyes, and if it had not been so thoroughly impossible he would have thought the object a woman. Suddenly it began to rush madly about and Brady saw it disappear into a ravine and, throwing caution to the winds, he dashed out to where he had last seen the object, and there, clawing into the earth at the bottom of the arroyo, was what was left of a once beautiful woman.

Just at sunrise her shattered reason came back, and throughout the day Brady fed her scraps of food, and nourished her with his scanty stock of water, until with the coming of night she could stand erect. Then came the return. She was neither strong of heart nor limb and could not walk with her swollen and blistered feet. Half carrying and half dragging, he got her to a road within a few miles of Franconia. Pointing out the way to the town, he told her he had to leave her and think of his own safety. She asked him not to leave her — just to go in sight of the town — and, putting self away, he went, until dimly across the starlit space could be seen a dark spot, which he told her was the town. She was weak, footsore, and hysterical, and she begged him to name a price, anything within reason, just to stay with her until daylight and the town were nearer. He told her that he had been three nights and two days without sleep now, and before he could travel he must get rest, and the short remaining time he must utilize in securing his own safety, for with day came danger to him. On her knees she implored him to stay. Nothing, simply nothing, would be refused him, and she tried to get a coquettish tone into her voice, but freedom was beckoning and Brady turned to the hills. Then she asked for the sake of her poor old mother, and Brady hesitated. He saw his own mother, before death called her, waiting the return of her boy, and somewhere a mother was waiting and, if she knew that her daughter was out on the desert, she was watching and praying for her safe return; so, just as the east began to gray, he turned toward the hills and freedom. When the sun rose he was a speck on the sand and she staggered into the town and told her story, and the people of the desert fed and clothed her, and she drank of the elixir of life.

Those simple children of the barren wastes couldn't tell her how she might let her friends on Bill Williams River know of her

safety, but Sheriff Crawford, who had stayed in the town over night, surely could, so he was called. In the ensuing conversation, she asked if he was in search of an escaped convict, and he told her no, that he was down just on some official business. And then, her curiosity aroused more than ever, she asked if there were not a convict at large, and he told her no, that the only one who had escaped lately was long ere this a victim of the silent wastes that she had been guided from by some divine power.

Then she asked about him. *Seven hundred and fifty dollars reward!* Why, it would buy beautiful dresses, rings, a piano, — he had saved her life, but he was an escaped criminal, a danger to the community, and some one else would have found her, any way, she was such a little way from the town. She forgot that when found she had been traveling towards the Hualapia Mountains, directly out into the land of death. Perhaps she did not know. She would be a heroine! Would she get the reward? she asked. Yes, he knew she would get five hundred any way, for he would pay two hundred and fifty, and the Wells Fargo people always paid the same. Again came a whisper, — he saved your life. But it would be compounding a felony and a sin to conceal the whereabouts of a criminal.

She closed her eyes and, floating before them, were the pictures of a woman driving from the ranch house of a friend and a lazy wandering about in the adjacent hills. Then the woman got out of the cart and did not tie the gentle old horse; a rabbit jumped from a clump of brush and the horse was away; the woman was dashing madly after him, and suddenly she realized that she was tired and thirsty; and she forced the nails into the palms of her hands as she thought of all that had followed until she had looked into the face of that dangerous criminal.

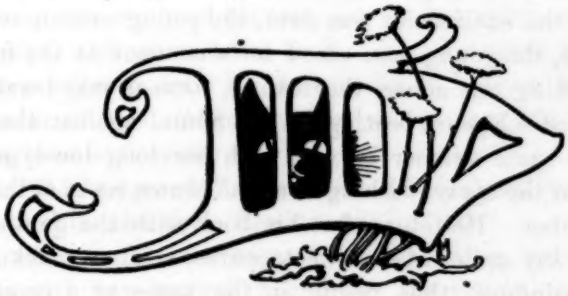
Into the shade of a deep arroyo Brady crawled and, worn out with the events of the last two days and nights, fell into a troubled sleep. No thought of a viper's sting worried him. Why, a coyote wouldn't do that!

In the land of his dreams he was back in the home of his boyhood. How joyously he snuggled down in the coziness of his bed! Then it must be morning, for he could hear that voice calling him, — a voice that had been silent for many years. It was just his dear

old mother, and he would pretend that he did not hear and she would come and gently shake him and say, "My boy, the larks are calling." The sainted form entered the doorway of his dream, and her eyes were smiling eyes and her voice was low and sweet.

Brady stirred uneasily, for the voice was harsh, and it was not calling "My boy," but "Brady," and his name wasn't Brady in those days.

Slowly consciousness came and the blue eyes faded to gray, and the gray hair became a white hat, and the hand that in dreamland had been extended to caress him, now held a .45. The gates of freedom were closed, and the prison gates at Yuma were open.



Whom Destiny Pursued.*

BY JOHN PALMER GAVIT.

SELECTING the moment when the sun broke through the clouds at the turning of the tide and lighted up the angry green, white-capped waves, the Higgs baby, leaning over the veranda rail, fell with a shriek of terror into the rose-bush, and the young man and young woman who had been reading at opposite ends of the veranda jumped from their seats, dropped their books, and rushed to the rescue. The child was injured only in her dignity, and her fall would have had small importance in this narrative had it not marked the End of a Beginning — or the Beginning of a Beginning, if you prefer.

When the excitement was over, the young woman returned to the house, the young man stood for a moment at the foot of the steps, looking out across the tossing, foam-streaked water, at the close-reefed schooner, beating up the Sound against the wind; at the great white steamer beyond, with her long low-lying trail of smoke; at the spray, dashing over the brown rocks at the entrance of the harbor. He returned to his book with the gentle recollection of a shy smile, whose sweet confusion almost acknowledged the acquaintance thus begun in the truce of a common helpfulness.

One in Finland, the other in Timbuctoo, they might have dwelt the past five years and known no less of each other. Yet in all that time they had lived within one short block in a narrow street of city boarding houses; had walked mutually oblivious over the same pavement — an hour apart in time, a world apart in fact!

Once only he had overslept, and passed her on his hurried way to his office. She was going in the same direction, and he noticed

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her trim and dainty figure and pretty hair. She noticed him not at all. On Sundays he slept usually until some time after she had gone to church, and their meal-times were an hour apart. Thus they never chanced to meet, and the singular coincidence which sent them off to their vacations on the same day and to the same place on the Connecticut shore found them still strangers.

Let so much of introduction sufficiently explain why these two, the only guests to arrive that morning at the Silver Sands House, came down from their rooms at almost the same moment, and passed out upon the veranda without speaking or affecting to notice each other.

"Her name is Martha McLean — she's a school-teacher in New York," the landlord explained to the group of smokers in the billiard-room. "She spent the summer here two years ago. A mighty sweet girl, and pretty as a picture, as you can easy see. She told me she hadn't a relative on God's green earth. The fellow? I never seen him before, but he writes a good fist, and paid for two weeks in advance. That's a certificate of character in a hotel, you know," he added with a chuckle.

The young man resumed his seat, put his feet again on the rail, relit his pipe, and opened the book. An expression of intense astonishment sprang into his face as he took from it a bit of faintly-perfumed blue ribbon, in place of the card which he had been using as a book-mark.

"Well, I'll be jiggered!" he exclaimed, half aloud, instinctively looking round for the girl. She was not in sight.

"Now, who would have supposed — she didn't look like that kind of a girl, you know! I took her for a nice, sweet, well-behaved little party, ready enough to be friendly if one were properly introduced and all that sort of thing, but sure to take offense if a fellow should look at her more than about so much. By George, you never can tell. All the same she's a dainty little baggage."

Just then the dinner bell broke in with its discordant jangle, and going indoors he stopped at the register on the office desk, to see who she might be. They met at the dining-room door, and as he stepped aside to let her pass in before him, she looked at him in a frightened way, and flushed to the roots of her hair. Their

seats at table were relatively far apart, and back to back. After dinner, she passed out of the room some moments in advance of him, and he did not see her leave the house by the back way, pass swiftly down the path to the woods, a book under her arm, a white parasol adding somewhat superfluously to the shade afforded by her wide-brimmed hat.

From his front window he looked out upon the Sound toward the dim haze of the Long Island shore, against which snow-white sails shone in the afternoon sun, and cogitated thus:

"Don't it beat the Dutch — that quiet little thing, with her demure mouth, and her thoughtful gray eyes! I suppose the best thing for me to do, unless I want to flirt with the little adventuress, will be to ignore the whole business. As the only young people here, I dare say we shall be talked about enough as it is. I'll take a walk and think it over."

He was whistling gaily as he flicked off the heads of the long grasses that lined the way. That path leads through the woods along the brow of the cliff all the way round the west side of the harbor, till you turn either down the rocky footway that takes you to the Horse-shoe Beach, or sharply to the right to the open space at the top of the promontory where the light-house stands.

Hesitating at the dividing of the unfamiliar way, the young man at last turned down toward the beach, where the surf still roared after the storm of the morning. A shady nook between two rocks attracted him; and he comfortably ensconced himself, "Paul and Virginia" lying open on the sand beside him, while he searched his pockets for a match. One he found, and one only — a flimsy broken-backed affair, with only half a head.

"Another count in the indictment against the little siren," he growled. "If I had not been engrossed with her, I should have remembered to stock up before I left the hotel. I don't believe I'm Irish enough to get a light in this breeze with this miserable wreck of a match."

The shelter of his hands proved unavailing, and after one tiny aromatic puff, the flame was out. He flung the offending fragment from him with a snort of disgust, and thrust the pipe into his jacket pocket, forgetting it instantly in the shock of a startling discovery. The leaves of his book, whisked over in the wind, had

left only the front cover open, and the title page displayed to his astounded gaze a dainty signature:

MARTHA D. McLEAN,
No. 94 WEST 999TH STREET,
NEW YORK CITY.

"Gee whiz! This isn't my book!" he cried. "How in thunder did I come by it? It's 'Paul and Virginia' fast enough, but my copy had my own name in it! I see how it was — the mix-up when the kid fell off the porch! No wonder I had to cut those pages twice. Well, I'm glad about that ribbon, anyway, even if it does write me down a conceited ass. I'd rather be an ass than find her a — oh, I beg your pardon!"

He stepped round the rock, and found himself gazing blankly into the white face and blazing eyes of Martha McLean!

Inevitable Fate, I presume to assert, had turned Martha's steps back from the light-house and down the steep path to the Horseshoe Beach, to a seat beside that self-same rock only a few moments after the young man had settled himself upon its other side. She made herself comfortable, adjusted her parasol, and opened her book in its shade. She was speaking to herself:

"I guess he will understand that I am not that sort of person," she was saying, and firmly closed her lips till only a thin line remained — a feminine institution which requires no description. "What have I done that this man should take advantage of me in this fashion? This is what it means to be a woman, and alone in the world — the mark for every designing man whose path you cross!"

Her eyes were dim with tears of mortification and distress, as she took from the book a business-card, on the back of which was written the cause of her perturbed soliloquy — this astounding message:

"I will call on you, if you please, at four o'clock. Please do not fail me. Yours, W. B. JACKSON."

"I will impress upon this young upstart that every lonely girl he meets is not necessarily to be regarded as his natural prey. And he doesn't look like that kind of man at all. Dear me, I was thinking of him as a fellow who would be kind to his sisters and loyal to his mother. How gentle he was with that little child!

But you never can judge by appearances — I should have thought myself old enough to have learned that. Anyway, he will understand by his failure to find me that I am not the kind to be 'called on at four o'clock!'"

She shut the offending card into her book with a vicious snap, then with a sigh laid her head back against the rock, and looked away across the harbor. Suddenly she sat bolt upright, startled by the snap of a sputtering match close to her ear, and a fragrant whiff of smoke blew past her face, bringing her to her feet with white lips and fluttering heart, as the very subject of her indignation faced her with his startled apology.

"You are — you are ahead of time, Mr. — Mr. Jackson," she said, as calmly and sarcastically as her demoralized condition of mind would permit. It is not yet four o'clock."

"Why, I — no, I believe not," he stammered, equally taken aback, and taking out his watch; "it is only — that is, it is just five minutes of four! I beg your pardon, I did not mean to intrude."

"I can judge of your intentions only by your actions," she said, gaining courage from his evident embarrassment. "Apparently you take it for granted that every woman is eager to cultivate your acquaintance upon your slightest overture."

"But, my dear madam, I assure you. I — "

"I have no patience with your assurances," she exclaimed; "your conduct is unmistakable and abominable. I am not so unsophisticated as not to know how men of your type regard a woman, especially if she seem alone and defenceless in the world."

"You are unreasonably severe," he protested. "You misconstrue a mere accident — "

"Is it a 'mere accident,' as you call it, Mr. Jackson," she cried, "that you presume to thrust yourself upon me without introduction, and without my slightest intimation by word or sign that your acquaintance is desired? I want you to understand that there is one woman capable of interpreting your designs and of defending herself. I dare say you thought I would be your easy prey, but you are to find yourself in this instance exceedingly mistaken."

"I do not understand you," he declared, aghast at this torrent

of denunciation. A sense of injured innocence was coming to his rescue.

"Of course not! How could you understand a lonely girl having the temerity to resent any advances which you might condescend to offer? You send me an insulting message, and when I take steps to avoid a personal encounter with you, you pursue me as if I were your legitimate spoil, of which you shall by no means be defrauded. And when I face you with your shame, you 'do not understand!' But I trust that for once you —"

"I sent you no message," he exclaimed, hotly. "I have no idea what you mean! I came here, if you please, to be by myself."

"Do you dare to deny, Mr. Jackson, that you —"

"By the way," he interrupted, somewhat impatiently, "allow me to suggest that you discontinue calling me Jackson. My name, by your leave, is Varney — I much prefer it, and hitherto have had no reason to be ashamed of it."

She stopped with a gasp, as if he had struck her. Then she took the guilty card from the book and thrust it at him, demanding:

"What have you to say, then, to that? Do you use another name only for the delectation of defenceless women? I found that in my book!"

He glanced at the card, struggled an instant with a torrent of conflicting emotions, then burst into shameless laughter, in which immense relief was evident. Whereupon her indignation flashed into flame, and she blazed upon him with angry tears in voice and eyes:

"No doubt it is very amusing for you, sir! But I fail to see the humor of it. If I had a father or brother —"

He became serious instantly.

"I beg your pardon, Miss —Miss McLean. It certainly is not amusing in that sense. It is, or might have been, a serious matter. But I am happy — more so than you can well appreciate — to say that I am quite innocent of that of which you have very naturally accused me. Will you be so good as to let me have that book a moment?"

Reluctantly, and very much on her guard, as if against some manner of ambush, she surrendered it to him. He flung the cover

open, and placed his finger at the top of the title-page, upon the strong, forceful signature:

RICHARD W. VARNEY.
HIS BOOK.

"An extraordinary coincidence in our literary taste, Miss McLean, has led us to this embarrassment, and to mutual misunderstanding and misjudgment. Permit me to restore to you your own volume, and with your permission to retain my own."

The rosy flush of her indignation fled from her face, leaving it snowlike in its pallor, then returned in a great crimson surge flooding her brow and neck, as she gasped in dismay:

"Oh, I see! I'm so sorry — how can you ever forgive me?"

Varney, smiling, extended his hand.

"We might forgive each other," he said.

And so it befell that at precisely four o'clock, as the always-punctual steamer *Margaret*, from New Haven, blew her whistle for the Silver Sands landing, these two futile fugitives from the inexorable pursuit of destiny stood hand-in-hand at last!

Eggs, $12,000 Per Dozen.*

BY DON MARK LEMON.

RASTUS JOHNSON, colored, was the pride and solicitude of the little village of New Canaan, Connecticut. The Baptists stood willing to immerse him, the Methodists were eager to sprinkle him, the Episcopalians hoped sooner or later to receive him into the fold, while the Congregationalists would have been proud to have pointed to him as a disciple who shunned the primrose path of dalliance and walked in the strait and narrow way. And since his skin had grown a shade lighter he was claimed by the Christian Scientists, for Rastus had prayed to become as his white brethren and, such is the power of mind over matter, his cuticle had suffered a change. But this latter happy state may have been due to a more frequent application of soap and water.

Then the day came when Rastus was able to read. A good lady of the village had taught him his letters, and when at last he applied that knowledge so advantageously as to peruse the *New Canaan Chronicle*, the first copy of which — warm from the press — always fell to him as a mark of special honor, the village all but arose and set the town bells a-ringing in celebration of the joyous occasion.

But alas! with knowledge comes sorrow, as the psalmist says, and this ability to read proved the undoing of Rastus. It was three o'clock on a Saturday afternoon when the old colored man suddenly stared at a particular paragraph in the paper which he had to that moment been leisurely and proudly perusing, then, letting the paper fall to the floor of the country store where he was seated, he began to groan, his black and erstwhile saintly physiognomy depicting the utmost pain and alarm.

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The bystanders hurried to his assistance and did everything in their power to relieve him, but Rastus was not to be comforted.

"Oh, good Lawd, de chicken, de chicken!" groaned the sufferer.

"Where is the pain; do tell?" pleaded Mrs. Samanthy Baxter, who was in the store at the time buying some calico with which to make handkerchiefs for foreign mission work.

Placing his hand in the region of his stomach, Rastus again groaned, "Oh, good Lawd, de chicken, de chicken!"

Mrs. Baxter sought by every Christian means in her power to soothe the sufferer. Indeed, she went so far as to beg him to recollect that his suffering was merely an error of the mind, for mind is everything, and that he could overcome it by the sheer force of will, but Rastus evidently had inside information contrary to that doctrine, and kept rubbing his stomach and groaning, "De chicken, de chicken!"

"What chicken, Mr. Johnson? Speak, poor soul!"

"De Thurston chicken! Oh, de good Lawd!"

"I knew it!" cried Mrs. Baxter. "Some wretch has poisoned one of Mr. Thurston's chickens, and now our unhappy colored brother has eaten of the chicken and been poisoned. Some one run for Doctor Thorpe, while I call on Brother Thurston!"

Leaving the sufferer groaning and writhing, Mrs. Baxter made straight for the Thurston farm on the outskirts of the village, to return a little later with her eyes as large as saucers.

"Land sakes, what do you think?" she cried. "There's a lot of city men down there, and Thurston is holding an egg auction, and when I came away they were bidding eight hundred dollars apiece for hens' eggs!"

Instantly there was a general movement on the part of the villagers toward the Thurston farm, Old Rastus Johnson, however, insisting that he be abandoned to his misery. When they reached the farm the excitement-seekers found the amazing report of Mrs. Baxter fully corroborated by the evidence of their own eyes and ears. Thurston was disposing of hens' eggs to a group of highly excited bidders at an average price of a thousand dollars for a single egg.

Open-mouthed and dumfounded the country people stared at

this amazing proceeding, wondering what on earth the world was coming to. When, finally, the strangers took their leave, bearing with them some two dozen hens' eggs and leaving behind checks payable to Thurston of the aggregate value of twenty-four thousand dollars, Thurston turned to his expectant audience and spoke as follows:

"A California genius has given us the pitless orange and the seedless grape, the spineless cactus and the thornless rose! Then why not the boneless hen?

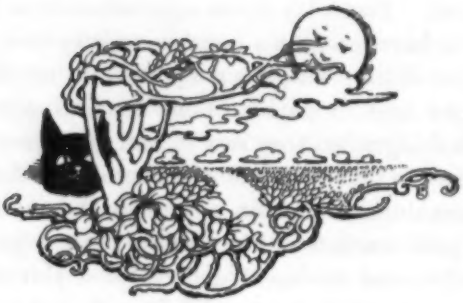
"Three years ago I gave up my position as a bank president in New Haven and came out here, and by gradually eliminating by painless surgery the bones of certain chickens while yet very young, and later intercrossing these chickens, I have at last succeeded in producing an egg that hatches into a boneless hen. Think of it! A breed of poultry all meat and no bone; all food, no waste; no nourishment lost in building up a useless frame of bone, but every grain of corn fed the chicken going to produce pure food stuff. Yesterday I was approached by a great financier who sought to have me form a boneless poultry trust with a capital of fifty million dollars but, being opposed to all morganizations, I have thought best to dispose of my boneless eggs to men who knew a good thing when they saw it, and have just sold to enterprising buyers the first two dozen by auction. I have now under way a boneless duck, as well as a boneless hog, which latter will control the pork markets of the world. I have just received an offer of one hundred thousand dollars for a pair of these hogs; but what is one hundred thousand dollars for an animal that will upset half the business of a great city like Chicago? I snap my fingers at the sum. In time I hope to place upon the market a boneless shad, but I shall speak now rather of what I have accomplished than of what I purpose."

Exchanging glances of profound astonishment, Mr. Thurston's auditors hurried back to the store where they had left Rastus Johnson in the doctor's charge. He was still bemoaning his affliction when the villagers returned and, in answer to renewed questioning, replied:

"Good Lawd, forgive me! Las' night I done borrowed an' eat one ob dem boneless hens what is wrote about in this yeah paper.

It could 'a' laid me a lot ob dose thousan'-dollar aigs an' made me rich!'

The cause of his sudden illness was explained! While assimilating the white man's religious teachings, he had retained his racial love for chicken, and being made aware, through a notice in the *New Canaan Chronicle*, that the particular kind of chicken which he had "borrowed" and eaten the night before was capable of laying veritable "golden eggs," he had fallen sick with grief.



The Power o' Love.*

BY ADELINE KNAPP.

Once I had laughed at the power o' love
And twice at the grip o' the grave.—*Tomlinson.*

THE prao, with its ancient bamboo sail, lay so close in shore that the port outrigger rested on the beach. Salvator sprang out to push off, while Juan Pablo ran along the starboard outrigger, to put her on an even keel. They had rice, and some maize meal on board, and they must make Daltique, certainly by the next day, or — famine had pressed close in Daltique, and might press closer still before the new crops were ready.

Salvator and Juan Pablo, living back in the mountains, had not learned, until it was almost too late, that these strange Americanos, with their new government, were giving out rice, at Iloilo. They hurried down, at that word, and although Juan Pablo had no one to wait for his coming, Salvator could not get back too soon with their stores.

From a little bamboo landing-stage, close at hand, two Americans watched the embarkment disgustedly. It meant wrath and disappointment to them, for they desired Salvator's services. The only Visayan in the district who could command any English, he refused their most generous offers to go with them to the little bario, back in the jungle, where they were under orders to establish a school.

The little Filipino padre beside them lifted his shoulders, in deprecation of their black looks. He had given over trying to make them understand. He knew no English — the Americanos no Spanish, and all their intercourse was carried on in school Latin, which lent itself but sparingly to the conduct of modern business.

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"I'm always stopping to construe the stuff when I try to talk it," Marmedel said to his companion. "I was stronger on the team than in the classics, at the 'Varsity," he added, "But what the devil more does the fellow want, Brandison? Can't you get it out of the padre?"

Brandison considered, and presently evolved, in sonorous dissyllables, an equivalent of Marmedel's colloquialism. The padre replied eagerly, and at length, in ecclesiastical Latin, so little expressive of the inner situation that Brandison gathered from it but one idea: Salvator wished to return to his wife.

"Oh! Bug the luck, anyway!" Marmedel muttered, at this information. "Just as if she wouldn't rather have the *dinero* every time. That's the worst of it, though," he continued, sagely. "This comes of the nice, kind little plans of our folks at Washington. Now, for instance, if the Government wasn't giving these fellows rice for the asking, they'd be glad to work. There's the case in a nutshell."

He warmed to the subject as he saw Salvator listening, a hand on the gunwale of the prao.

"This fellow here," he said, "won't do a stroke of work till his rice is gone and he's hungry again. Isn't that so? eh?" he called to the Filipino.

Salvator shook his head. He, too, had tried to explain to the señors, but his English, gathered, painfully, while body-servant to an American officer, was limited. He understood far more than he could say.

"Eh?" Marmedel pushed his question. "You'd be mighty glad of dinero if you were hungry now?"

Memories of the famine pinch were in Salvator's mind, but what could these huge red señors know of famine?

"Pickaninny hungry *now*," he ventured, "I take rice."

"Better take money to *buy* rice," Brandison said. "That bag won't last long."

The two teachers did not know. The District Superintendent was away, riding his barios, and before he went he had spoken to them but vaguely of a famine which *had* prevailed over Daltique way, in the mountains. A famine, in the past tense, is not an uncomfortable idea to one who has not known it in the present

imperative. It is rather pleasant to reflect that Government provided relief, and it is all over.

Juan Pablo, balancing on the starboard outrigger, called to his partner in gutteral, explosive Visayan. There was no time to linger. Salvator, pushing the prao well away from the beach, sprang to the outrigger, ran along the frail, slippery structure, and picked up his iron-shod bamboo pole, while Juan Pablo hauled at the sheets. Two or three pole-thrusts, now one side, now the other, and they were in deep water. The light bamboo sail caught and filled in the breeze, and they danced away, the far-spread outriggers flicking the water as the prao rose and fell.

"Looks like a big dragon-fly skimming the water," Marmedel commented, as he watched the retreating craft. "If that fellow'd had any ambition we could have made him mighty useful."

Off across the sunlit sea the prao fluttered on her course. Juan Pablo sang softly to himself, squatted in the cock-pit, his back braced against the side, but Salvator's face was joyless and lowering as he sat astern, easing the sheet to the give and take of the sail. Never before had he known discontent. To go with the Americanos would have met his heart's desire, had it not been for Home — Home, and hungry wife and children. It was well for Juan Pablo to sing and be happy; he knew nor cared that there were needs and possibilities beyond the day's food and enjoyment, but he, Salvator, had seen, and learned. This was a dog's life, even as the big, red señor had said. He was being dragged back to it, and elsewhere, in this very land, were things he could only dream of; never know; never grasp.

"But what sorrow is it, not to go with the señors?" Juan Pablo interrupted his song to ask. "They go far from home."

Salvator snarled, contemptuously.

"What sorrow is it that a man should live as a dog?" he answered.

As Juan Pablo stared in silent amaze, he went on:

"The señor said the word, and it is a true one. To hunger and thirst, and be glad of a handful of rice; to dig, to drive the carabao, to eat, and sleep, and wake to dig again." Salvator's tirade broke off in a bitter laugh. His companion looked perplexed. His mind had never conceived a problem.

"But it is life," he ventured, remonstrant, "and there is dancing, and the cock-fight, and love, and the little ones——"

Salvator laughed again.

"May the alligator eat all fools," he sneered. "Life? It is only death alive; and love, and children? Seven thieves! But they kill a man and drink his blood!"

Juan Pablo crossed himself, hastily.

"Mother of Mercy!" he cried, "Must one not fear God? I have no wife or child, but neither do I blaspheme the good gift."

Salvator's laugh was more bitter still, but he did not reply. He was looking far ahead, where sea and sky had taken on a gray sheen, with here and there white flecks on the crest of an occasional slow-breaking wave. The sun, round, and sickly pale, beat hotly down on the little boat, and in the direction of Salvator's gaze showed the lines, and the curling black smoke, of a small steamer.

Both men recognized the craft. It was an inter-island transport, and its genial young captain was known throughout Visayan ports as "the kind Americano." As the boats drew together a Visayan sailor came forward on the steamer and hailed them.

"Better turn back, the Captain says," this was his message, "The typhoon comes."

The sky was changing, swiftly. It and the sea were a smoky yellow, now, the latter running slow and heavy, like strained honey. The air had become breathless, and the black, soft-coal smoke from the transport's stacks hung close above the waters. Juan Pablo looked at Salvator in dismay.

"We must go back," he said.

Apparently the other did not hear. He was staring seaward, ponderingly.

"The Captain does not know," he said, at last, "and there is famine at home. We must take the rice thither."

"Nay, but the prao would never ride the typhoon," Juan Pablo persisted. "And as for the famine—" his shoulders went up in a submissive shrug, "What comes, comes, and the Americano señors would be glad of your company."

Ah! that thought had already been in the other's mind, but an angry sense of responsibility over-rode it.

"We must take the rice home," he muttered, sullenly, holding on his course. The useless sail had been run down, and he was wielding a long oar while Juan Pablo sat on the gunwale, debating.

"We can never do it," the latter cried, rising in alarm, "Turn back, or we shall die!"

"I turn not back," Salvator said, savagely. "If you are afraid, there is the steamer. Doubtless the kind Americano will take you in."

For reply, Juan Pablo suddenly sprang up, and with a loud cry to the receding transport, jumped overboard. The American captain saw the action, and a moment later his command, scarcely larger than a good-sized launch, came about. The swimming Visayan was taken aboard, and through a sailor the American sent another warning across the water to Salvator. The latter shook his head, and presently the captain came round to his course again, muttering an imprecation on the crazy Filipino. He dared not risk his own ancient little craft in the coming storm, and was hurrying to safety.

Salvator cast one look back at the fading transport, and bent to his oar. The sea lapped oily smooth, in a long, soft swell, past either gunwale, and the prao rose and fell with its slow undulations, in a quiet that yet was not peace. The Filipino's thin jusi camisa clung to him wetly, but underneath the damp, oppressive heat a vague suggestion of chill made itself felt, and he shivered.

As he did so, the prao gave a sudden lurch, which threw him forward upon his big oar. He recovered his balance with a grunt — the wood had struck him in the stomach — and wiped his streaming face upon his sleeve. Along the sky, on the north and the east, heavy banks of black cloud hung, and though it was still clear overhead, he knew that rain was coming. He rolled his wide, flapping, cotton trousers up to his hips, and covered his cargo more securely; there were two bags of rice and one of American maize meal.

He rolled these in the rubber poncho of an American cavalryman, who had sold it to the Filipino, in defiance of regulations, when a thirst was on him. Salvator made the package fast to the mast, with a strong lashing of bejuca, the native rattan, and again applied himself to rowing.

The yellow-black sea heaved and sank, slower and more heavily, running to meet the yellow-black sky. East and north the clouds were mounting higher, and Salvator could do little more, in the terrible heat, than stir his oar languidly, yet every now and then came that little hint of chill in the air. The prao gave a heavier lurch than any before, and shipped a lot of water, whereupon he left off rowing, and began to bail.

Glancing upwards from this task, a sudden terror seized him, of the ominous sky. He sprang to his oar once more, and put the prao about. Love of life filled him, and he redoubled his panting efforts to make headway over that slow sea. He was headed, now, for the shore whence he had set out. He could never make Daltique; but if he could get back to Iloilo he might yet go with the teacher-señors.

Another lurch of the prao — the swell was growing heavier, and instinctively he glanced at his cargo. It would be unnecessary, in Iloilo. The thought awoke memory. Paula and the two little ones waited for rice, which no one but he would bring them.

His spirit leaped to fierce anger at the thought. There was Juan Pablo, who was contented at Daltique, yet no ties held him; he could go back to safety; even to the wider life for which he did not care. Only he, Salvator, who knew and desired; who had seen the wider vision, must go on, staggering to the end, under the burden of his dog's life. He knew that he must go, and he cursed, in his heart, the yearning which drew him, despite ambition and desire, to the hopeless effort promising only death.

Sullenly, his anger burning deeper and deeper still into the fibre of him, he turned the prao again, with difficulty, this time, in that treacly sea, and once more the long oar complained against the gunwale, as he steered toward the black clouds, now half-way up the sky. They rushed to meet the little craft as she came about, and, yawning above her, loosed their surcharge of flood.

She stood still and shuddered under the impact. Salvator, his oar knocked from his grasp, was beaten down, bodily, by the weight of descending rain. He sprang up, on the instant, and again grasped his oar. The rush of the storm seemed, for a moment, actually to whip the sea into quiet; then the wind came, and the prao was swept forward in its mad embrace.

The first wave that went over her broke the bamboo mast just above the lashings of the rice sacks, and swept her of everything she contained, save the man, and his precious cargo. She was full of water, from gunwale to gunwale; only the straining outriggers kept her afloat.

Crawling along through the wash, Salvator felt their fastenings. One had started, and he fumbled, with sodden fingers, at the stout bejuca withes. A blackness of darkness had descended upon the sea, and it was bitter cold. Looking seaward as he worked at the lashing, the man saw, by a dart of the lightning's forked tongue, a white portent racing toward him. Higher and higher it loomed, until, crazed by its menace, he shrieked out, in defiance. He clutched at the gunwale as the crushing smother rushed upon him, and one arm, slipping in between the lashings, held him, gasping, and half-drowned. The next wave, more merciful, lifted the little craft high upon its curling crest.

As she rolled down into the trough the bejuca withes tore loose, parted, and the starboard outrigger swung free at one end, dipping the prao's nose under. Flinging out upon the other outrigger the man clung, cat-like, with legs and arms, and brought her up again. He had no sense of peril. He was conscious only that a blind rage impelled him to fight the forces assailing him. He clung to the outrigger, as the next wave whelmed him, and cursed sea and sky and storm, in his fury. Then the forward lashing of the loosened outrigger gave way, and the prao careened, but he swung out on the long reach of the other side, and balanced her for an instant longer.

Only for an instant, however. As he hung there a lull came, during which he heard a new sound, above the beat of the rain and the rush of the sea. It was the roar of surf, and he knew that the end was near. He had scarcely noticed it when there was a churning whirl, a sound of grinding, a crashing blow from some unrecognized source, and, still cursing, he passed into mighty silence.

He came out of it slowly, hearing vaguely, for a long time, ere his wandering consciousness returned, the roar and fury of the sea, behind him. Far above him gleamed a bit of black sky, across which stars raced madly, fleeing from clouds that pursued

them. Just beyond reach the sea still raged at him, dashing in angry threat against intervening rocks, beyond which he had been flung. He lay, spent and shipwrecked, on a shelving bit of the cliff, safe, until some comber, craftier than its fellows, should manage to tear him off.

Stretching exploring hands hither and thither in the darkness, he laid hold upon something which brought perception back to him. One of the bags of rice, bursted, and despoiled of half its contents, had been flung up beside him. He staggered to his feet, and pressed against the cliff, feeling eagerly, in the darkness, to determine his surroundings. On three sides arose perpendicular rocks; the fourth side opened toward the maddened sea, which every now and again stretched savage, yearning fingers across the rocky guards of his slight harborage.

Stripping off his soaked camisa, he knotted the sleeves together about the neck, and into the bag thus formed he put the broken sack of rice. Some strands of twisted bejuca still clung to it, and with these he secured the package to his shoulders, passing a fastening over his head, as well. He worked intermittently, as the flashes of electricity gave him light. The storm was increasing in fury, and the sea's menacing fingers clutched at him more than once, before he finally turned his back upon it, and began to climb the cliff.

Slowly, slowly, now feeling his way in the blackness, now noting it by the lightning's instant glare, he crept upwards, clinging to a projection here, setting his foot in a crevice there, fighting his way, inch by inch, with torn hands and feet, and abraded, bruised limbs. His right forearm was open to the bone, down its length, but the sea, even despite its fury, had salted the wound, and washed it clean. A dreadful gash gaped across his forehead, but there was none to see, and for the time being he was past feeling.

He reached a ledge across the cliff, and stood upright upon it, feeling along the surface above him for new holds. Everywhere was smooth, wall-like rock, and he moved off sidewise, continuing his blind search, until, far to the left, the surface again became broken and rugged, and he resumed his upward creeping. His burden of water-soaked rice oppressed him fearfully; he paused more and more frequently, for breath, and to wipe his bleeding

fingers upon his matted hair. He had lost all consciousness of why he crawled upwards; only blind instinct kept him moving, clinging from point to point, scaling each difficult inch with no thought for the next one. At last, setting his right foot where his right hand had just clung, he raised himself, pressing close to the rock, and his seeking fingers found no projection, or least hold, on the cliff's smooth face. Here, at last, was the end.

The gale at his back pressed him close to the rock, and he lay there, numbly, awaiting the instant when, his last strength departing, he should dash downwards, to the waiting sea. Every nerve in him recognized the inevitableness of this instant, and deadly fear smote him. He could feel the weight of his burden pulling him backwards, and he half moved, with an instinct to throw it off.

At the faint motion something stirred in the depths of his nature. Before his eyes seemed to rise the little nipa hut beside his young rice patch, and Paula's face, hunger-pinched and yearning, as she hushed the wee creature tugging at her breast. He could see small Matteo as he last beheld him, gnawing patiently at the end of a dry cane-stalk, and his soul yearned in tenderness over the vision. What were life, or wider reach, or opening knowledge, if these, heart of his heart, flesh of his flesh, were not to be in it?

He pressed his forehead against the cliff. He spread out his hands, and leaned his bare chest close to the rock. Thus he clung, like any limpet, while the tumult of fear within him slowly sank. His nerves steadied again, and he watched, alertly, for each recurring flash of lightning to show him the face of the wall before him.

Far on his left, he at last made out, the rock shelved boldly, but the utmost reach of his arm fell short of that chance for safety. Save for his frail foot perch, his only hold upon the rock was the pressure of his body, — the clinging touch of his open palms.

These latter he began shifting, line by line, never raising them, until, although his feet had not moved, his body leaned to the left. Every perception was alert, now, and with breathless caution, his left foot crept sidewise along the rough projection on which he stood. Presently that projection ended, and upon its last edge his foot paused. He shifted his weight and slowly dragged his right foot along. There was but the merest chance, and it seemed an

eternity before, reaching again, his hands touched the edge of the shelf above him. He waited, not daring to essay the ultimate hope, husbanding his strength for the last effort. The next glare from heaven should light his attempt.

When it came, it showed a crevice in the rock, and he thrust his knee into it as he threw himself forward. Panting, he clung, for an instant, then dragged himself up and fell, face down, on the shelving, rocky platform, his whole frame shaking with sobs of exhaustion.

The quick dawn found him there, and roused him from slumber, showing him the top of the cliff, close above him. Gaining it, he washed some of his rice in rainwater caught in a hollow of the rock. He ate it and went on his way, threading the mountain ways, hour after hour, heedless of the sun's fierce heat or the jungle's tangle, resting but the shortest of half-hours, in the middle of the day, until, as the afternoon was closing, he staggered out upon a mesa overlooking his home. Below him, like a sheet of green fire, his young rice field glowed with promise. Bamboo and hemp trees waved against the crimsoning sky, and leaning from the door of the hut, Paula called little Matteo in from the evening's damp.

Salvator watched her for a moment ere he gave a low call. She turned, looking upwards, and her cry of greeting was almost a moan.

"Salvator! Is it indeed thou? Is it well with thee? And hast thou brought food?"

He was speeding down the familiar trail, staggering weakly, beneath his precious load.

"It is I," he cried; "I have brought food; and it is well with us!"

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CONDITIONS. 1. Every story must be strictly original and must, neither wholly nor in part, have appeared in print in any language.

2. Each manuscript must bear at the top of the first page the writer's real name and address in full (if it is desired that the story be published under a pen name, that must likewise be given), as also the number of words it contains, which may range from 1,000 to 5,000. Other things being equal, the shorter of two stories will be preferred.

3. Manuscripts must be plainly written (with typewriter or pen) on one side of paper only on sheets not larger than 8 x 11 inches, must be sent flat or folded, not rolled, *postage fully prepaid*, and accompanied by addressed and stamped envelopes for return. Letters advising submittal of stories must be *enclosed with manuscripts*, not sent separately, and to prevent loss the name and address of the sender should be on back of envelope. Manuscripts will be received and returned only at writers' risk.

4. With every manuscript there must be enclosed, *in the same envelope*, one yearly subscription to THE BLACK CAT, together with 50 cents to pay therefor. On subscriptions to foreign countries 24 cents must be added for postage; but Canada, Mexico, Cuba, and our territorial possessions do not require foreign postage. Remit by draft, postal or express money order, or registered letter. One- or two-cent postage stamps in perfect condition will also be accepted. If competitors are already subscribers to THE BLACK CAT or submit more than one manuscript we will, if they so instruct us, extend their existing subscriptions or enter the new ones in the names of other parties. Any competitor may send as many stories as desired, but with each story all conditions must be complied with.

5. All envelopes containing manuscripts as above must be plainly marked "For Competition," and addressed, "The Shortstory Publishing Company, 144 High Street, Boston, Mass." Their receipt will be acknowledged as promptly as possible.

6. The competition will close October 12, 1904. The awards will be paid within 60 days thereafter, and announced in the earliest possible issue of THE BLACK CAT. We reserve the right to make such changes in awarding the prizes as unlooked-for circumstances may render desirable. Should, for instance, two stories of equal merit prove worthy of a prize, the prize will be either doubled or divided.

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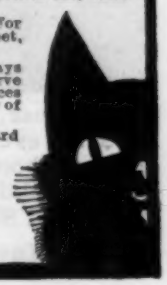

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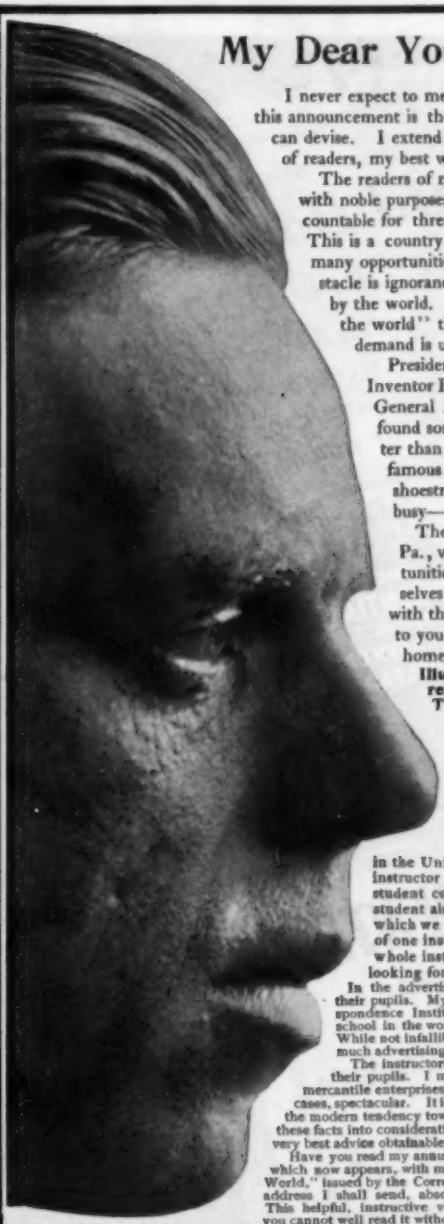

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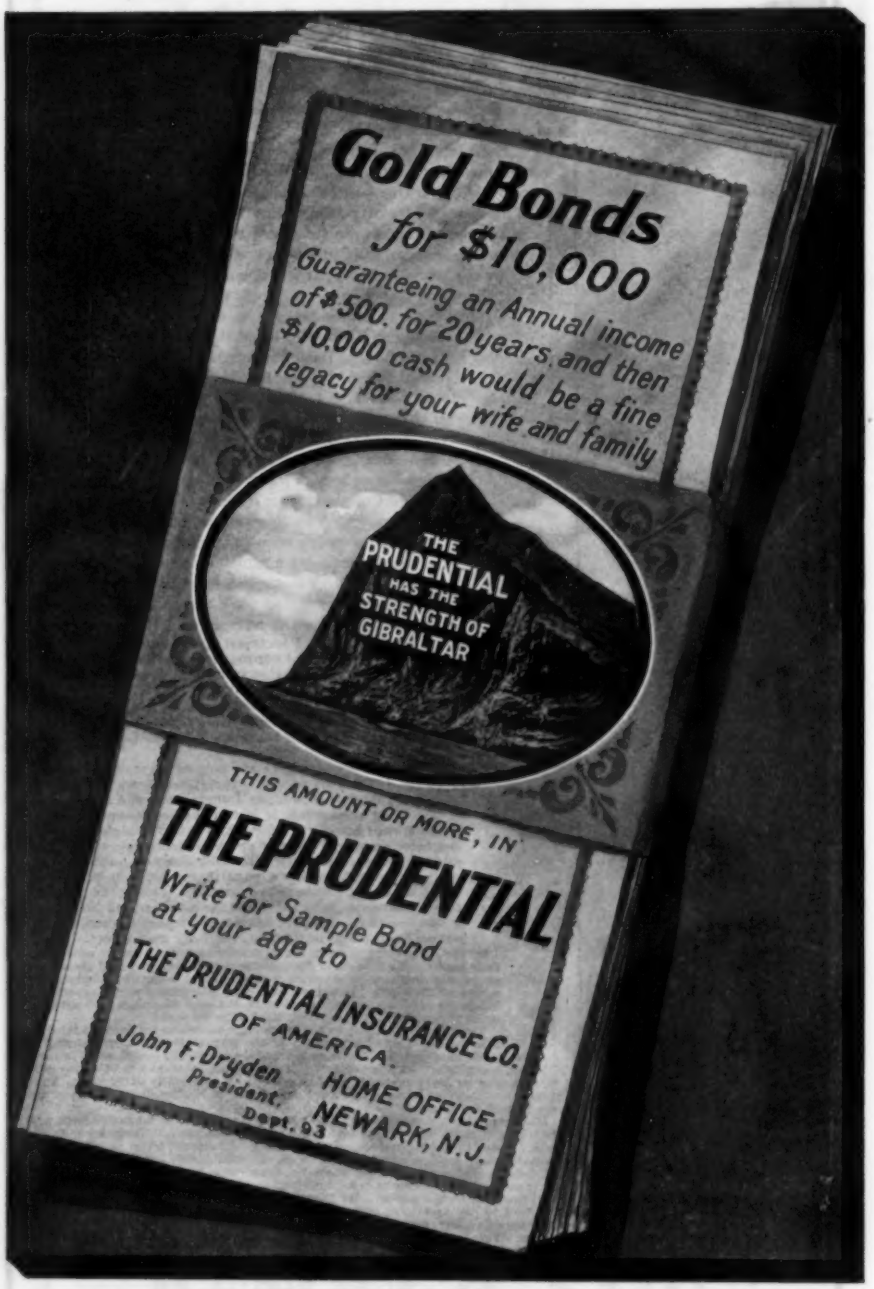

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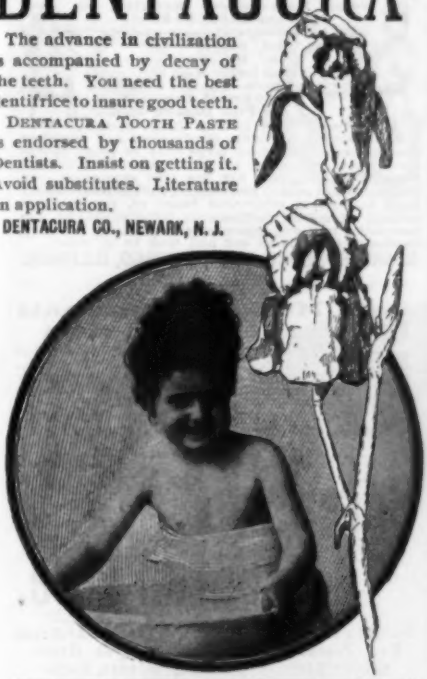

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Above was paid November last to R. G. Parvin, of Denver, Col. You may have an equally valuable coin. Get Posted! Don't let a fortune slip through your fingers. We buy all Rare Coins at big prices. Send two stamps for illustrated paper giving full particulars and instructions.

ALEXANDER & CO., Established 1873, **214 C Washington St., Boston, Mass.**

Do You Want To Dress Stylishly

Do you want an **all-wool** suit or overcoat **made for you**, and **to fit you**, from the newest fashionable fabrics? Do you want to be **absolutely satisfied** before you pay for the garments?

Do you want a pair of **All-Wool Tailor-Made**

$5 Trousers Free

of cost to you for doing us a favor? Then **read carefully** and **act promptly** on this **Tailor-Made**

$10 Suit Offer

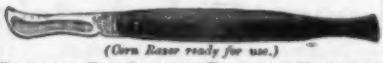
We will send you samples of all-wool Clay Worsteds, Thibets, Serges and Cassimeres, in black, blue, brown and fancy mixtures, from which we will make you a suit or overcoat for $10.00, **the equal of which you cannot buy for $15 anywhere else,** and give you an extra pair of $5.00 All-Wool Trousers **without charge,** providing you will hand ten sets of samples (which we furnish you free) to ten men who will belikely to buy suits on our **exceedingly liberal terms.**

Don't take our word for it. Just give us the opportunity to **prove** that we can and will **save you money** and **give you absolute satisfaction.** You take no risk. We make your suit, send it to you and give you ten days time to **actually wear the garments** to prove their positive worth. That's fair, isn't it?

Write to-day for our New All-Wool $10 Suit Samples—also ask for our Superb Imported All-Wool Fall Fabrics at $12.50, $15.00 and $18.00 special prices—our New Fall Style Book and Complete Instructions for taking measures, **all sent free,** together with our Presidential Proposition, that **pays you $2.50 in cash before you get your suit.**

Owen T. Moses & Co., 228 Moses Building, Chicago.

References: Your friends, or Milwaukee Ave. State Bank, Chicago. Capital $250,000.00.



(Corn Razor ready for use.)

Star Safety Corn Razor

Manufactured by Kampfe Bros. (manufacturers of the original and only Safety Razor of merit).

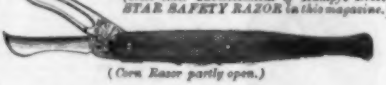
BE YOUR OWN CHIROPODIST

No skill required in using this corn razor. It is SIMPLE, SAFE and SURE, and will do its work quickly, relieving the sufferer at once. The directions which are sent with every Safety Corn Razor give clear instructions as to its use.

Please note illustrations carefully. They will give you some idea of this wonderful invention, which will absolutely remove *any corn*, no matter how hard it may be, without cutting the foot.

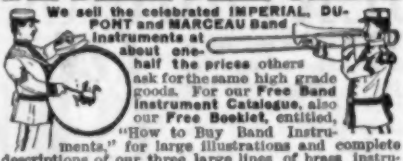
Price, $1.50. Full descriptive catalogue mailed on request. KAMPFE BROS., 8-12 Reade St., N. Y.

(Note other advertisement of Kampfe Bros., STAR SAFETY RAZOR in this magazine.)



(Corn Razor partly open.)

BIG BRASS BAND OFFER.



We sell the celebrated IMPERIAL, DUPONT and MARCEAU Band instruments at about one-half the prices others ask for the same high grade goods. For our **Free Band Instrument Catalogue,** also our **Free Booklet,** entitled, "How to Buy Band Instruments," for large illustrations and complete descriptions of our three large lines of brass instruments, also everything in Drums, Clarionets, Flutes, Saxophones, etc., etc., for the free catalogues, our guarantee and refund proposition, for the most liberal band instrument offer ever heard of, for the new method of selling instruments fully explained, for something new and immensely interesting to every bandman, cut this ad out and mail to us today.

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

Musical Instruments at Factory Prices

We are selling our Band Instrument Violins, Violin Strings, Accordeons, etc., at strictly factory prices. Every instrument guaranteed. Money back if dissatisfied. Large catalogue FREE. *Write to-day.*

LOUIS VITAK, Dept. 9, 204 Wabash Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

Sore Eyes Cured Free.

Famous Lotion that is Absolutely Harmless and Positively Cures Sore Eyes, Granulated Lids, Wild Hairs, Ulcers, Cataracts, Bloodshot, or Inflamed or Tired Eyes.

It Makes Weak Eyes Strong and Gives Instant Relief to the Burning Pain or Soreness of Strained Eyes or Eyes Hurt by Night Work—Send Your Name and Address To-day for Free Package.

The cures being made by this magic lotion every day are truly remarkable. B. T. Gorman of Austin, Minn., says he was blind for years with cataract. He doctored with one specialist 22 months without results. Now he tells of his marvelous cure by Schlegel's Magic Eye Lotion after all others failed. Mrs. B. A. Hubbard, Plum Point, Tenn., tells of her cure in a month with this lotion after all doctors and remedies had failed for five years to cure her. To-day she can see perfectly out of both eyes. Rev. M. H. Blackman, the well-known pastor of Ovid, Pa., was cured of a case of granulated eyelids that had resisted for years all attempts of doctors to cure. Mr. George W. Byers, Owensboro, Ky., was cured of ulcers and wild hairs with this lotion after all other remedies had failed. Dora Casey, Chicago, was cured of granulated lids for which doctors treated her for five months steady, but failed to cure. Dr. J. W. Angell of Iowa, one of the oldest and best known doctors in the west, suffered with granulated lids for seven years. He tried every remedy, but failed to cure until he used Prof. Schlegel's eye lotion and one bottle gave him more relief than all the remedies he ever tried. G. Klopfer, the well-known florist of Peoria, Ill., suffered for years with weak, watery and sore eyes and spent hundreds of dollars with doctors. One bottle of Prof. Schlegel's Magic Eye Lotion cured him. It stops pain instantly. It contains no cocaine nor other harmful drugs and it cures sore or weak eyes to stay cured. The Professor is very glad to send a free package of his remedy to anyone who suffers with their eyes. Write to-day to Prof. H. T. Schlegel, 883 Mackinaw Bldg., Chicago, Ill., and be cured.

The Famous

FOSTER RUBBER HEEL

Positively Prevents Slipping

Costs No More

Wears Much Longer

THE FOSTER is the only heel which WILL NOT SLIP in wet weather. It has a Pneumatic Cushion Back, making it very elastic; at the same time the patented Friction Plug does away with all the sneaky feeling experienced in the old-fashioned plain rubber heels. It is the LIGHTEST heel made and has no unsightly holes to fill up and track mud into the house. Where the Foster has been introduced, it is outselling all other kinds put together three to one.

Recommended by leading shoe manufacturers, shoe jobbers, and shoe dealers as the BEST HEEL EVER MADE. Ask your shoeman for the *Foster*.

Once Tried, Always Worn

By mail, 35 cents per pair. Send outline of heel.

No Rubber Sole Like the Foster for Golf, Yachting, or Tennis Shoes

FOSTER RUBBER COMPANY

370 Atlantic Avenue : : Boston, Massachusetts

Send for A FREE BOX

Of the New Vapor Cure for

CONSUMPTION

Medicines do not cure consumption. Medicines cannot cure as good physicians know — hence it is so much dreaded as being incurable. The reason is that the medicine is taken into the stomach, while the disease is INSIDE THE LUNGS. To cure it the seat of the disease must be directly reached, the collected mucous (dead matter) loosened and removed, the germs killed and the irritated raw lungs and pulmonary tubes cleansed and healed up. To get this curative power direct to the weakened lungs — this cleansing, healing, life-giving power of Nature contained in certain atmospheric gases concentrated in some mountain and forest localities — doctors order their sinking patients (beyond hope from their medical skill) to the curative mountain air of certain Western States, there to simply breathe the peculiar cleansing, healing, vitalizing gases in the dry mountain air — there to prolong their lives and where many revive and recover their lost health. The purifying, invigorating atmospheric mountain gases cleanse the lungs and heal the wounds made by the germs, and fill the lungs with vitality.

Strange as it seems, our chemist by a peculiar accident discovered the chemical construction of these curative gases and has learned how to concentrate them in dry chemical form — thus greatly increasing their power and their effect. Draw these gases into the lungs and the dead matter is at once loosened and raised off, the germs are killed and the patient cured.

Our "**Condor Inhalation Cure**" cured many bad cases of consumption here at Phoenix, Ariz., last winter who could get no relief otherwise. Out of many hundreds of cases treated not one failure have we met yet. Besides we find the "Condor" treatment has wonderful effect in curing **Bronchitis, Catarrh, Colds, Chronic Coughs,** and such diseases of the pulmonary organs. The results with the "Condor" treatment are so remarkably successful that we will prove its value to you at our own expense, and will send to any one who needs it. Describe your case carefully and write at once for letters from those cured and a free box by return mail, postpaid.

Wilcox-Helmer-Gortner Co., 807 Bryson Block, LOS ANGELES, CAL.

MISS EMMA EMOND, of St. Sauveur, Quebec, Can., before and after using Foso Treatment.

Free Hair Grower.

A trial package of a new and wonderful remedy mailed free to convince people it actually grows hair, stops hair falling out, removes dandruff and quickly restores luxuriant growth to shining scalps, eyebrows and eyelashes. Send your name and address to the Altenheim Medical Dispensary, 9014 Foso Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio, for a free trial package, enclosing a 2c. stamp to cover postage. Write to-day.

WOMEN and MEN suffer needlessly from **INGROWING TOE NAILS.** We **guarantee** that our silver appliance will give immediate relief and in a very short time will effect a **permanent cure** without pain, cutting or any inconvenience whatever. 20,000 sold. **25 cents,** stamps or silver.

COLONIAL MFG. CO., Dept. E, WARREN, OHIO

BE YOUR OWN CHIROPODIST. We have a handsome 20-page illustrated booklet on "How to have Easy, Healthy, Shapely Feet," which we will mail to any address for a 2c. stamp. Bunions **CAN** be cured. The booklet tells you how to do it in your own home without cutting and without the slightest inconvenience. It also tells about the prevention and removal of corns, ingrowing toe-nails and the treatment of all kinds of foot troubles. Agents.

FOOT REMEDY CO., 1304 S. Lawndale Avenue, Chicago.

Too Fat

Don't ruin your stomach with a lot of useless drugs. Our method is perfectly safe, natural and scientific. It strengthens the heart, allows one to breathe easily and takes off Double Chin, Big Stomach, Fat Hips, etc. Send your address and 4 cts. to the Hall Chemical Co., "Box K. A.," St. Louis, Mo., for Free trial Treatment. No starving. No sickness. It reduces weight from 5 to 15 lbs. a month, and is perfectly harmless.

Darken Your Gray Hair

DUBY'S OZARK HERBS

DUBY'S OZARK HERBS restore gray, streaked or faded hair to its natural color, beauty and softness. Prevents the hair from falling out, promotes its growth, cures and prevents dandruff, and gives the hair a soft, glossy and healthy appearance. **IT WILL NOT STAIN THE SCALP,** is not sticky or dirty, contains no sugar of lead, nitrate silver, copperas, or poisons of any kind, but is composed of roots, herbs, barks and flowers. **PACKAGE MAKES ONE PINT.** It will produce the most luxuriant tresses from dry, coarse and wiry hair, and bring back the color it originally was before it turned gray. Full size package sent by mail, postpaid, for 25 cents.

OZARK HERB CO., Block 18, St. Louis, Mo.

Work for Yourself
Not Others

Ambitious men and women, there is plenty money in the mail-order business, and it requires but little capital. Get started properly, conduct it right—it means independence and a large steady income. We teach this business completely. Send for free booklet.

Louis Guenther's Mail Order Bureau, 602 Schiller Bldg., Chicago

Don't Be Fat.

The Following Illustration Shows the Remarkable Effects of My Wonderful Obesity Food— What It Has Done for Others It Will Do For You.

No dieting, exercise or exertion is necessary. My natural, scientific Obesity Food does all the work. You will feel a hundred times better the first day you try this wonderful home food.

Send your name and address — no money — to-day to Prof. F. J. Kellogg, 449 Kellogg Bldg., Battle Creek, Mich., and receive the trial package in plain wrapper free by return mail.

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Fifty thousand have already done so and hundreds are doing so every day in all parts of the country with our help by simply introducing our fine line of Soaps, Perfumes, Toilet Preparations and Pure Food Specialties among their friends and neighbors. This is an actual fact which we shall be glad to prove to anyone at any time.

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Our handsome **Free** Book beautifully and fully illustrated, together with our specially prepared literature, explains everything fully and clearly. Simply your name and address in a letter or on a postal if handier, brings it to you by return mail. We can easily prove to you that our method is the easiest, best and most wonderful in liberality you ever heard of, and that by it you can add greatly to the comforts, conveniences and adornments of your home in a few hours of your spare time.

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WOMEN TO SEW Shields at home. Plain Sewing only, it's all piece work. Good pay; no material to buy. Send reply envelope for particulars and prices we pay. **Universal Co., Dept. 100, Phila., Pa.**

COM-PLEX-NER **fades away the freckles and beautifies your complexion while you sleep.** Will not injure the most delicate skin. Send stamp. Special terms for limited time. **Mme. Bigwood, Face and Head Specialist, 726 Dudley Street, Boston, Mass.** Confidential. Plain Envelope.

Why don't YOU use a **SACHET TALCUM PUFF?**

It is **the perfect toilet requisite.** Delightful after bathing or shaving. The "Puff" itself is made of eiderdown, **soft and fine,** through which the delicately scented pure air float talc percolates. This distributes the powder evenly and in just the right proportion, thus preventing the flying of loose powder over the dressing-table or cloth. The cover is made of chamois, beautifully hand-painted, and is, in addition to its **practical value as a Puff,** a most attractive souvenir. It's the wonder of the World's Fair, where thousands are being sold. Send **25c.** to-day for a Puff.

L. L. BORDEN & CO., Box 136, FALL RIVER, MASS.

Does The Saddle Gall You?

Does the close confinement to uncongenial drudgery irritate and chafe you?

Throw off the saddle. Get out of the unprofitable and uncongenial work where progress is nearly impossible.

There is no reason why you should not be the rider.

The I. C. S. system of mail instruction will put you in the saddle and help you to earn more.

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gives a thousand and one examples of how our training has enabled our students to advance from low positions to higher ones. The accounts of the rise of some of these students read like romance. This booklet will be sent free to all who fill in and mail to us **this coupon.**

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Please send me your booklet, "1001 Stories of Success," and explain how I can qualify for the position before which I have marked X

Advertising Writer	Bookkeeper
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In the Art Section of THE RED BOOK for September, you will find 18 recent picture studies of the stage celebrities of the day.

A limited number of these portraits not in gen- of the subjects and therefore highly treasured by

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ALL FOR 30¢
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We make an up-to-date Suit strictly to your measure in latest English Sack Style for only $10, and give the following complete outfit **FREE** and you don't pay for it until you receive the suit and Free Outfit, and find it just as represented. Send us your P.O. address and we will send you **FREE SAMPLES** of cloth, tape measure and measurement blanks for size of Suit, Shoes, Hat, etc., **FREE.**

A suit of Clothes Made to Measure from any of the samples sent you, for which tailors would ask from $20 to $22.00
A Dunlap Block, any shape Hat.....2.50
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A pair of good Web Suspenders..... .50
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Many Dealers ask for this Outfit ...$30.00

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Reference: Metropolitan Trust & Savings Bank, Capital, $750,000, or any Express Company in Chicago.

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Tells all about great opportunities to make money in this new oil field. This special number is fully illustrated and contains a vast fund of valuable, interesting and reliable information, read it before you invest a dollar. Heed its advice and you will surely become a successful investor. There are hundreds of opportunities to make big money in Kansas oil. Get posted and keep posted. Do it now, not tomorrow, **but right Now.** *Ask for Kansas Oil Edition, just out.* Address,

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RUPTURE CURED while you work. You pay $4 when cured. No cure, no pay. ALEX. SPEIRS, Box 218, Westbrook, Maine.

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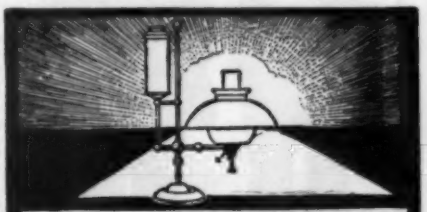
ANYBODY with **$2.00 a month** Capital, and Common Sense can now make a Fortune in Stocks. Postal will bring **"A Straight Tip."**

FRANK H. WRAY & CO., Brokers, 533 Broadway, New York.



THE "BEST" LIGHT Outshines the Sun.

It's pure white light makes day of night. Costs less than kerosene; six times more powerful than electricity. Examined, tested and permitted by underwriters' association.

CATALOG FREE.

NO DIRT -- NO WICK -- NO SMOKE -- NO SMELL

Agents wanted. Exclusive territory, good commission paid

THE BEST LIGHT COMPANY,

Sole Owners of Original Patents. 234 E. 5th St., Canton, O.

FREE

THE MINING HERALD

Leading mining and financial paper, giving all the news from all the mining districts, and containing latest and most reliable information on the mining and oil industries, principal companies, dividends, etc. Every investor should have it. We will send it free for six months upon request. A. L. WISNER & CO., 32 Broadway, New York.

BE YOUR OWN BARBER

Shave yourself with the ORIGINAL and MECHANICALLY PERFECT

STAR SAFETY RAZOR

This guarantees ease and comfort at home, at camp, on the yacht, or while traveling under any and all conditions. Absolutely impossible to cut the face. The evil results of the Public Barber Shop Razor done away with. It will comfortably take from the most tender face a strong, stiff, wiry beard.

Over 5,000,000 daily users prove the value of this perfect razor. Always ready. Saves time and expense.

Imitators have tried to duplicate the *Star Safety Razor*, but with poor results.

Full descriptive catalogue mailed on request (if you will mention this publication) gives general information and prices of different sets.

Razors, complete, $2. Handsome Sets, $3.50 and up. New Star Diagonal Stropper, $1.50

KAMPFE BROS., 8-12 Reade St., N.Y. or all leading dealers in high-class cutlery. (Remember the word "STAR")

The Reliable Whitney Fountain Pen. Price $1.50. 14kt. gold, diamond point, patent adjustable feed.
Pen will be sent free for examination. After purchase and 6 days' trial, money will be refunded if pen is unsatisfactory.
AGENTS WANTED. **R. W. WHITNEY, M'F'R, 286 Superior St., Cleveland, Ohio.** References, Union Nat'l Bank.

ARE YOUR LEGS STRAIGHT?

If not they will appear straight and trim if you wear our easy Pneumatic and Cushion-Rubber Forms. (Patents applied for throughout the world). Adjusted instantly; defy detection. Immediately adopted by well dressed men. Write for illustrated pamphlet mailed under plain letter seal.

THE ALISON CO.
DESK D. BUFFALO, N. Y.

PRACTICAL DRAWING

Taught by Correspondence

Instruction in Commercial Drawing, Illustrative Drawing, Lettering and Design, General Drawing, Architectural and Mechanical Perspective, Newspaper Drawing, etc. Instruction endorsed by leading authorities. Successful students. PRACTICAL Drawing taught by PRACTICAL methods. Write for further information.

School of Applied Art (Box 2400), Battle Creek, Mich.

IF YOU INVEST MONEY OCCASIONALLY WHY not invest it where safety as well as profit is assured? Sums as small as $25 may be advantageously invested in income paying real estate in New York city. The profits are LARGE—often 50%

CO-OPERATIVE INVESTORS' ASSN, 108 Fulton St., N.Y.

Be Your Own Boss!

MANY MAKE $2,000.00 A YEAR. You have the same chance. Start a Mail Order Business at home. We tell you how. Money coming in daily. Enormous profits. Everything furnished. Write at once for our "Starter" and FREE particulars.
B. C. KRUEGER CO., 155 Washington Street, Chicago, Ill.

TO CIVIL SERVICE POSITIONS

You Are Too Short!

Many a candidate for a position under Civil Service Rules has passed the written examination only to be rejected in the physical examination because he was below the required standard of height. Candidates for positions who are now below the necessary height requirement may, by using the Cartilage System, quickly and surely reach the desired height.

The Cartilage Company, of Rochester, N. Y., is the owner of a method whereby any one can add from two to three inches to his stature. It is based upon a scientific and physiological method of expanding the cartilage, all of which is clearly and fully explained in a booklet entitled "How To Grow Tall," which is yours for the asking.

The Cartilage System builds up the entire body harmoniously. It not only increases the height, but its use means better health, more nerve force, increased bodily development and longer life. Its use necessitates no drugs, no internal treating, no operation, no hard work, no big expense. Your height can be increased, no matter what your age or sex may be, and this can be done at home without the knowledge of others. This new and original method of increasing one's height has received the enthusiastic endorsement of physicians and instructors in physical culture. If you would like to add to your stature so as to be able to see in a crowd, walk without embarrassment with those who are tall, and enjoy the other advantages of proper height, you should write at once for a copy of our free booklet "How To Grow Tall." It tells you how to accomplish these results quickly, surely and permanently. Nothing is left unexplained. Write to-day.

THE CARTILAGE COMPANY,
34M UNITY BLDG., ROCHESTER, N. Y.

WILLIAMS' SHAVING STICK

The acme of luxury, convenience and economy.

Williams' Shaving Sticks, Shaving Tablets, Toilet Waters, Talcum Powder, Jersey Cream Toilet Soap.

Write for booklet "How to Shave"

THE J. B. WILLIAMS CO.
GLASTONBURY, CONN.

I Print My Own Circulars Cards &c. $5 PRESS

Saves money. Big profit printing for others. Large press for book, newspaper $18. Full instruction sent for use. Write for catalogue presses, type, &c. to factory. THE PRESS CO., MERIDEN, CONN.

3000 GUMMED LABELS, $1.00

Size, 1 x 2 inches, printed to order and postpaid. Send for catalog N. FENTON LABEL CO., Philadelphia, Pa.

BIG MONEY in Mail-Order Business. One mail-order house does a business of a million dollars monthly; another receives 2,000 letters daily, nearly all containing money. The mail-order business is very fascinating. Big profits. Conducted by anyone, anywhere. Our plan for starting beginners is very successful; covers every point. Write for it; send stamp.

CENTRAL SUPPLY CO., KANSAS CITY, MO.

STEVENS

ALMOST half a century of consistently successful achievement is back of the famous STEVENS FIREARMS. Need more be said of the firearm virtues embodied in our line of Rifles, Pistols and Shotguns? Sportsmen the world over have not the slightest hesitancy in equipping themselves with the STEVENS, feeling assured of our always maintaining our present high standard of manufacture.

Ask your Dealer, and insist on the STEVENS. If you cannot obtain them, we will ship direct, express prepaid, upon receipt of price.	Send 4 cts. postage for 136-Page illustrated catalog, containing detailed descriptions of entire output, hints on shooting, ammunition, care of a rifle, etc.

J. STEVENS ARMS AND TOOL CO.
186 MAIN STREET
CHICOPEE FALLS, MASS.

A SAFE INVESTMENT

That Will Pay 20 Per Cent

Whiskey Certificates Good As Government Bonds

PROPERTY VALUE INCREASES WITH AGE. UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL AND INSURED AGAINST LOSS

Shawhan is the only high grade whiskey distilled West of the Mississippi, and has been made by the same house for over 120 years. Its sales extend into every State of the Union. The Shawhan is doing the largest mail-order business of any bonafide distillery in the Country.

There is no Surplus Shawhan Whiskey in Existence

Owners of Shawhan whiskey in bond have always realized 20 per cent per annum on their investment. Until Dec. 1st next, a limited amount of the 1904 Shawhan whiskey is offered for sale in the form of warehouse certificates. On Sept. 1st, one summer, equal to a year's age was added to this whiskey, and the price advanced 20 per cent. Shawhan Distillery rules are that the price on their bonded whiskies is advanced March 1st and Sept. 1st of each year. It is an investment easily handled and on which your money can always be realized. **Send $3.20 for Sample Gallon** Shawhan Rye or Bourbon, express prepaid. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back. For full particulars, write The Shawhan Distillery Co., 606 Baird Building, Kansas City, Mo.

REGISTERED DISTILLERY NO. 8

CONTEST CLOSES OCTOBER 15th.

We will pay $85,500.00 in prizes to those who can estimate nearest to the total paid attendance at the Great St. Louis World's Fair. This Fair opened April 30th, 1904, and will close December 1st, 1904. The paid attendance on opening day was 125,754 people; during May, the paid attendance was 542,028; during June, 1,382,863; during July, 1,514,758. Can you estimate the number of people who will pay admission during the entire Fair? You have just as much chance as any one else. Try it.

$85,500.00 IN GOLD

TO THOSE WHO COME NEAREST.

FIRST PRIZE, $25,000.00. SECOND PRIZE, $10,000.00 THIRD PRIZE, $5,000.00

Our Prizes are the largest ever offered in any Contest, and are divided as follows:

To the nearest correct estimate	$25,000.00
To the second nearest correct estimate	10,000.00
To the third nearest correct estimate	5,000.00
To the fourth nearest correct estimate	2,500.00
To the fifth nearest correct estimate	1,500.00
To the sixth nearest correct estimate	1,000.00
To the next 10 nearest correct estimates, $200 each	2,000.00
To the next 20 nearest correct estimates, $100 each	2,000.00
To the next 50 nearest correct estimates, $50 each	2,500.00
To the next 100 nearest correct estimates, $25 each	2,500.00
To the next 200 nearest correct estimates, $10 each	2,000.00
To the next 500 nearest correct estimates, $5 each	2,500.00
To the next 1,000 nearest correct estimates, $1 each	1,000.00
Supplementary prizes	26,000.00
Grand Total	**$85,500.00**

SEND IN YOUR ESTIMATES AT ONCE. Not an estimate will be considered that is received in our office after **October 15th, 1904.**

For each estimate we send you a separate engraved and numbered certificate with your estimate thereon. The corresponding coupons of these certificates are deposited at the time your estimates are made, and can be handled only by the Committee on Awards after the contest closes.

1 Certificate will cost you	$ .25
5 Certificates " " "	1.00
12 " " " "	2.00
20 " " " "	3.00
40 " " " "	5.00
100 " " " "	12.50
1000 " " " "	125.00

Each certificate entitles you to an estimate. You can estimate as often as you wish.
SEND IN YOUR ESTIMATES WITH YOUR REMITTANCES. As soon as received we will immediately make out your certificates and send them to you to be retained by you until the Fair is over and the Committee on Awards declares the successful contestants.

Remember you are to estimate the number of people who will pay admission into the grounds during the entire Fair. This does not include any free passes whatever. In order to help you to estimate, we will state that the total paid attendance at the Chicago World's Fair was 21,480,141; at the Pan-American Exposition 5,306,859; and at the Omaha Exposition 1,778,250.

MONEY NOW DEPOSITED.

We cannot touch this prize money. It is held by the Missouri Trust Co., for no other purpose than to pay these prizes as soon as the Committee on Awards declares the successful contestants. This committee has no interest whatever in the contest, and is made up of prominent business men who have agreed to award the prizes, and your estimates are turned over to this committee before the Fair closes, insuring absolute fairness to every one interested.

MISSOURI TRUST COMPANY,

CAPITAL $2,000,000. St. Louis, Mo., May 20, 1903.

This certifies that The World's Fair Contest Company, incorporated, has this day deposited with this company **$75,000.00 in gold,** for the payment of the awards in its contest on the total paid attendance at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, 1904, and that said deposit is held in trust by this company to be paid by it to such successful contestants as the committee on awards may direct.

Jos. L. Hanley
TREASURER
Missouri Trust Co.
of St. Louis.

OCTOBER 15th positively the LAST DAY. Not a penny will be accepted or an estimate counted after that date.

ONLY A FEW DAYS REMAIN. Don't subject yourself to a life-long regret by failing to enter this remarkable contest. Only a small amount invested in our estimating certificates may mean that an independent fortune is yours. WRITE TO-DAY. Remit by express order, postal note or registered letter. Don't send personal checks.

THE WORLD'S FAIR CONTEST CO., 6801 DELMAR AVE., ST. LOUIS, MO.

October 15th, LAST DAY. Don't forget that you must enter the contest before that date or not at all.

MACKINTOSH'S TOFFEE

Is a Pure and Delicious

OLD ENGLISH CANDY

And I want to say to the readers of THE BLACK CAT that it's just the candy for the whole family, and the children in particular. There is nothing "just as good," or "just like it." Your dealer can supply you. If not, write me, and send me his name, and I will talk with him.

Trial package sent for 10c. in stamps; or 4-lb. Family Tin sent for $1.60, and I pay the express charges

JOHN MACKINTOSH

Dept. 24 78 Hudson St., New York

The PARKER Fountain PEN

LUCKY CURVE

LOVERS of a good pen prefer the Parker, because it is the **Pen of Pleasure.**

The "**Lucky Curve**" keeps the pen clean, and prevents soiling the fingers.

Let us send you our 80-page catalogue and "The Reason Why," and the name of the dealer at whose store you can see the "Lucky Curve."

The Parker Pen Co., 16 Hill St., Janesville, Wis.

NOTE. Six-inch Aluminum Rule and Paper Cutter on receipt of stamp to any **INTENDING** Parker Pen buyer.

WONDERFUL PIANO OFFER.

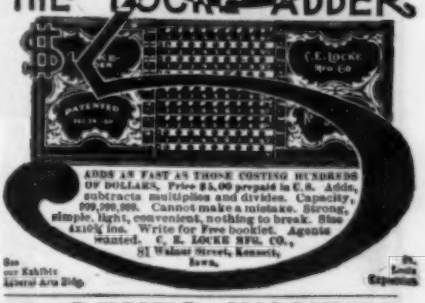
The Celebrated BECKWITH PIANO CO.'S UPRIGHT GRAND 25-YEAR GUARANTEED PIANOS.

$89.00
115.00
138.00
and 165.00

For the most liberal piano offer ever heard of write for our **Free Piano Catalogue**, and you will receive by return mail, free, postpaid, the **handsomest, most interesting and most complete Special Piano Catalogue ever published.** We will send you a facsimile of our celebrated 25-year guarantee, our one year's free trial plan will be fully explained, how we furnish pianos on trial without one cent of money being sent to us will be made very clear; you will receive facsimile letters from the largest Chicago banks endorsing our proposition and we will explain just what the freight will be to your town. In the special catalogue we show large, handsome, halftone illustrations and complete descriptions of all the different parts, the manner of construction (interior and sectional views), also color tone sample plates of the different woods, including French burled walnut, English quarter sawed oak, San Domingo figured mahogany, etc. Each piano is shown in very large halftone, full plate illustrations, every detail is fully and accurately described. **Why the highest grade Beckwith Piano made, the Acme Cabinet Grand Concert Piano at $165.00,** is in every essential point the **equal of any piano made, regardless of price, is made very clear. Write for our Free Piano Catalogue** and get all this free by return mail, postpaid; our latest and most astonishing offer, the **greatest piano** proposition ever heard of. If you have **any use for a piano at any price,** don't fail to write for **our FREE PIANO CATALOGUE AND OFFERS.** Address,

SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO.

THE LOCKE ADDER



ADDS AS FAST AS THOSE COSTING HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS. Price $5.00 prepaid in U.S. Adds, subtracts multiplies and divides. Capacity, 999,999,999. Cannot make a mistake. Strong, simple, light, convenient, nothing to break. Size 4x10¾ ins. Write for Free booklet. Agents wanted. C. E. LOCKE MFG. CO., 81 Walnut Street, Kenosh, Iowa.

See our Exhibit Liberal Arts Bldg. St. Louis Exposition

AGENTS WANTED

To sell Combination Card Game **STARS and STRIPES**

Can play over one thousand games with Stars and Stripes. **Price, 50 cents.** Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. **FAB. H. WEATHERS, RALEIGH, N. C.**

MAKE YOURSELF TALLER

Gilbert's Heel Cushions

"Worn inside the shoe."

Increase Height, Arch the Instep, Make Better Fitting Shoes, Remove Jar in Walking. Indorsed by physicians. Simply placed in the heel, felt down. Don't require larger shoes. ½ in., 25c.; ¾ in., 35c.; 1 in., 50c. per pair. At shoe stores. **READ** and dep't Send name, size shoe, height desired, and 2c. stamp for pair on ten days' trial.

GILBERT MFG. CO., 50 Elm St., Rochester, N. Y.

DIAMONDS ON CREDIT

One-half Carat
Fine Perfect Stones
$65.00

TERMS:
$10.00 down
$6.00 per month

WE WILL send any one of the above rings to any honest person, for inspection, express prepaid. Don't hesitate to order at once. All we require from you as security is a simple conditional sale agreement as per terms above indicated. You may safely send first payment in advance, or if you prefer we will forward ring C. O. D. $10.00; balance to be paid at the rate of $6.00 per month. *WE SELL WATCHES THE SAME WAY.* Catalogue M141 upon request.

Herbert L. Joseph & Co.—*Diamonds, Watches, Jewelry*—148 M 141 State St., Chicago

Our individual responsibility is $250,000.00. Established 1882.

Stanleyway Advertising

ESTABLISHED 26 YEARS

WE TRUST YOU!

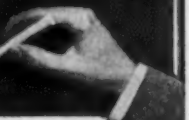
BALL-BEARING SEWING MACHINES

Direct from Factory to You — **10 Cents Per Day** — Guaranteed 10 Years

Send for Our Beautifully Illustrated CATALOGUE of high-grade sewing machines at less than one half agent's prices. It fully explains our new easy payment method. The "Pay as you Sew" plan. Free for the asking.

Wood Sewing Machine Co., Inc.
Dept. B, 17 N. 10 St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Save One Half your Smoking Expense



WE guarantee to save you 50 per cent. of ordinary retail cigar prices because we have cut loose from the jobbers, who have taken the product of our factory for years, and go direct to YOU with the same time-tested brands of cigars, selling them by the box. CHARGES PAID, at precisely factory wholesale prices; putting the profits of Jobber, Salesmen, and Retailer—THREE PROFITS—IN YOUR POCKET.

Our line is so very complete—cigars of all prices—to suit all tastes—that we absolutely guarantee to please you, besides SAVING ONE-HALF OF YOUR SMOKING EXPENSES, if not—if you are not in every way entirely satisfied—we give you

YOUR MONEY BACK

cheerfully and willingly. Every cigar we make costing you over $3 per hundred is constructed of clear, pure imported Havana tobacco, and all cigars are made under the best approved sanitary conditions. Send us a trial order for any of the following under our guarantee.

Boxes of		12	25	50
Balmetto	4½ in. Purlianos	$.90	$1.65	$3.25
El Provost	4½ in. Perfectos	.45	1.50	3.00
La Medalla	4½ in Coachas	.70	1.25	2.50

or for 75c. we will send you an assortment of 12 cigars, each separately wrapped and described, showing four varieties of 10c. and two for a quarter values; or for 50c. an equal showing of High-grade 5c. and 10c. values. Send for our catalogue, "*Rolled Reveries*," which explains everything. *All transportation charges prepaid.*

VIENNA, LA., "The El Provost are as good as any ten-cent cigars I ever smoked." J. A. GREENER, JR.

JOHN B. ROGERS & COMPANY, "The Pioneers,"
757 Jarvis Street, Binghamton, N. Y.

Laughter Lengthens Life

The Prize Story Treat offered on page xxx of this issue of THE BLACK CAT is decidedly Good Medicine. These 900 pages of copyrighted cleverness turn sadness into sunshine and dreary hours into delightful dreams. A set for yourself, one for your sweetheart, and another for some absent friend, forms a gift the delightful memory of which will never fade. Order at once for the supply is limited.

BEAUTIFUL SONG BIRDS FREE

For the purpose of advertising our business we shall **GIVE AWAY** in the next few weeks **thousands of rare and beautiful song birds,** and if you wish to receive a fine singing bird in a cage, **FREE, write us to-day.** No home is complete without a beautiful singing bird in an attractive cage, and if you are prompt you can secure one of these birds. We distribute the birds to advertise our business. **YOU HAVE NOTHING WHATEVER TO PAY FOR THE BIRD AND CAGE.** Be sure to send name of your nearest express office and express company to ship by. Address

NEW YORK ANIMAL EXCHANGE
744 D, BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

REVERSIBLE

Linene

Collars and Cuffs

Save Money and Trouble

Professional and business men, students, mechanics, sportsmen, find comfort, convenience, and economy in these goods. Made of fine cloth, stylish, and exactly resemble linen.

NO WASHING OR IRONING

When soiled, discard. **We send by mail, prepaid, ten collars or five pairs of cuffs for 30c.** Sample collar or pair of cuffs for **6c.** in U. S. Stamps. Name size and style.

REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. O, **Boston**

PRESIDENT

SUSPENDERS

The Swinging Back Principle—

That spells **"solid comfort"** to the wearer. Every movement of the body is taken up by the reciprocating back-action of **PRESIDENT Suspenders**

No tired shoulders—no strain **anywhere**—no leather to soil the shirt—buckles cannot rust. Satisfaction, a new pair or your money back.

At dealers or by mail. Price 50c and $1.00.

The C. A. EDGARTON MFG. CO.
Box 302 Shirley, Mass.

YES

There are other railroads between the east and the west.

BUT

it is always well to secure the best you can for the money.

THEREFORE

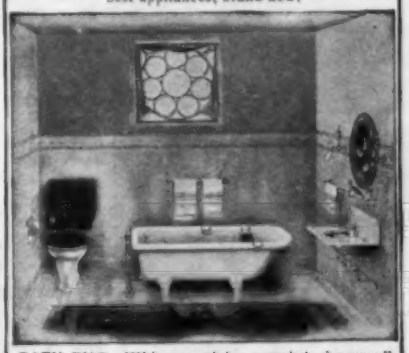
You should bear in mind this remark of an experienced traveler:

"For the excellence of its tracks, the speed of its trains, the safety and comfort of its patrons, the loveliness and variety of its scenery, the number and importance of its cities, and the uniformly correct character of its service, the New York Central & Hudson River Railroad is not surpassed by any similar institution on either side of the Atlantic."

Send to George H. Daniels, General Passenger Agent, Grand Central Station, New York, a 2-cent stamp for a 52-page Illustrated Catalog of the "Four-Track Series."

Bath Room Combination

Latest designs, finest nickel trimmings, best appliances, brand new.



BATH TUB—White porcelain enameled—heavy roll rim—seamless cast iron.

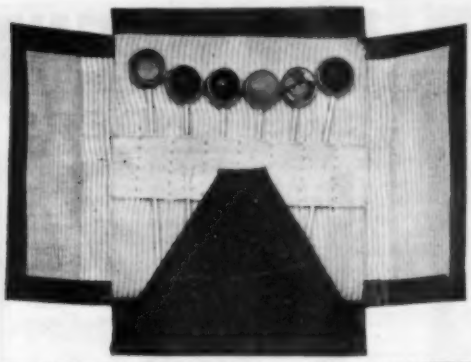
LAVATORY—Genuine "Italian" marble countersunk slab and back—patent overflow porcelain bowl.

CLOSET—Syphon wash down vitreous porcelain bowl—perfect working—best wood work.

Price $55.00

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Any ordinary mechanic can do the work. We furnish working plans on application. **ASK FOR BOOKLET F 605, tells all about Plumbing and Heating Apparatus.** Address

CHICAGO HOUSE W. CO., 1250 35th Street, Chicago



Sterling Silver Stick Pins

Six kinds, assorted; beautiful imitations of the following Gems:—

Amethyst, Emerald, Ruby, Sapphire, Topaz and Turquoise

Set of 6 in Leather Case, 75 Cents
(see illustration)

Separate Pins 10 Cents each; $1.00 per dozen.

(Assorted unless otherwise ordered.)

Send for Catalogue

Address Department **C,**

G. WILLIS WHIPPLE & CO.

Gold and Silver Smiths,

184 ESSEX ST., SALEM, MASS.

Every Reader of this issue of THE BLACK CAT should at once take advantage of the Great Prize Story Treat offered on page xxx. If he has already enjoyed these 900 pages of Copyrighted Cleverness let him make some friend happy.

Dream of Fair Women

An Art Portfolio containing **10** of the most fascinating pictures of modern times, **brilliantly** and **artistically colored.** They are creating a craze on account of their entrancing beauty; made on artists' stippled paper, one picture on a sheet, fit to frame, size 7 x 10 inches, arranged in Portfolio form.

These pictures represent subjects from Semi-Nudes with the most delicate drapery to the rough-and-ready Cow-boy Girl of the wild West. (Great for your den.)

Sent prepaid to any address anywhere in the U. S. or Canada upon receipt of **50c.** Express or P. O. M. O. currency or postage stamps.

The White City Art Company

Established and Incorporated 1892.

326 Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.

P. S. If you order in 10 days an extra picture entitled "A Nifty Dip" will be sent **free.**

A $10.00 QUALITY LIFE SIZE

PASTEL PORTRAIT,

copied after any good photograph, will be sent in patent mailing tube, to any address in the United States or Canada.

Absolutely Free of Cost to You

for the purpose of advertising our new art work, now being introduced as the most successful novelty of our studio.

Conditions.

(1) Distinct photographs of yourself or any member of your family (no others accepted) with your name and address clearly and correctly given, must be mailed to us, accompanied by (25) twenty-five cents in coins or postage stamps to cover mailing expense.

(2) Only ONE Life Size Portrait furnished free to each family (second orders being accepted only at $10.00 per portrait).

(3) No house, landscape or animal pictures accepted for FREE enlargement.

(4) We do not supply any frames at any price.

(5) If any changes are desired, that require special work, necessitating a slight extra charge, or if the portrait is to be finished in colors, directions must be given, when photo is mailed, so as to enable us to classify our orders readily.

Our Guarantees.

(6) The portraits furnished free are guaranteed to be the equal of our regular $10.00 work, or any high grade portrait on your walls.

(7) Original photographs will be carefully handled, and returned on same date when the enlargement is mailed.

(8) We are ready to furnish the highest commercial references.

PARAGON ART GALLERIES
New York City

Girls! Here is Your Chance

THIS BEAUTIFUL SOLID GOLD LAID 22-INCH CHAIN and LOCKET GIVEN AWAY FREE. Locket is studded with 8 cluster opals, and has a secret compartment; chain is 22 inches long. So valuable a premium has never been given by anyone for a little of your spare time. **Send No Money,** just your name and address, and we will send you at once, **All Charges Paid,** 10 of our **NEW SANITARY TEA AND COFFEE STRAINERS. No Kitchen Complete Without One.** Made of silver aluminum, has no joints to catch dirt and retain grease, light as a feather, beautiful as silver, won't rust, tarnish or wear out. Sell them at 15 cents each, when sold send us the money, and we will send you at once, this handsome Locket and Chain to pay you for your work. **Remember, We Trust You.** If you can't sell our goods, we take them back, but there's no **CAN'T** about it, **YOU CAN.** Write to-day.

AGENTS SUPPLY CO., 77 Dearborn St., Dept. 115, CHICAGO.

A Good Idea as to what the Great Prize Story Treat offered on page xxx means to its possessor can be found by reading the stories in this Anniversary Number of THE BLACK CAT. This number contains 44 pages of stories; the prize offer covers over 900 pages of Copyrighted Cleverness.

BUTCHER'S Boston Polish

Is the best finish made for FLOORS, Interior Woodwork and Furniture

Not brittle; will neither scratch nor deface, like shellac or varnish. Is not soft and sticky, like beeswax. Perfectly transparent, preserving the natural color and beauty of the wood. Without doubt the most economical and satisfactory POLISH known for HARDWOOD FLOORS.

FOR SALE BY DEALERS IN PAINTS, HARDWARE AND HOUSE-FURNISHINGS

Send for our FREE BOOKLET, telling of the many advantages of BUTCHER'S BOSTON POLISH

The BUTCHER POLISH CO., 356 Atlantic Ave., Boston, Mass.

Our No. 3 Reviver is a superior finish for kitchen and piazza floors

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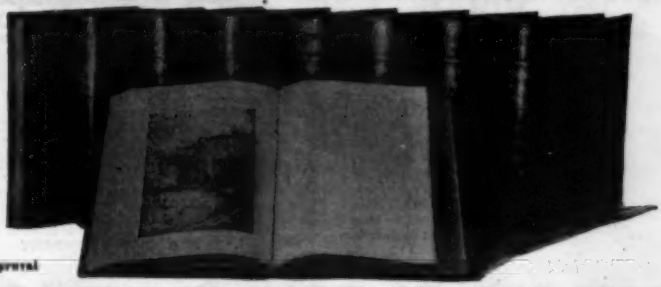

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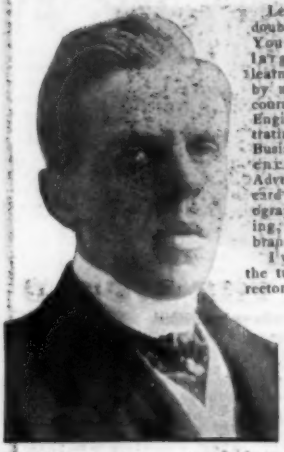

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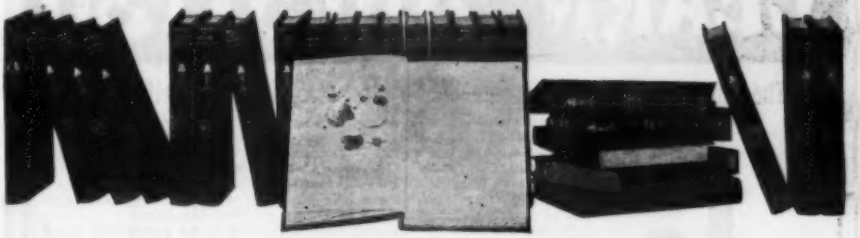

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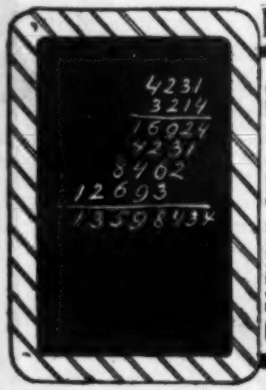

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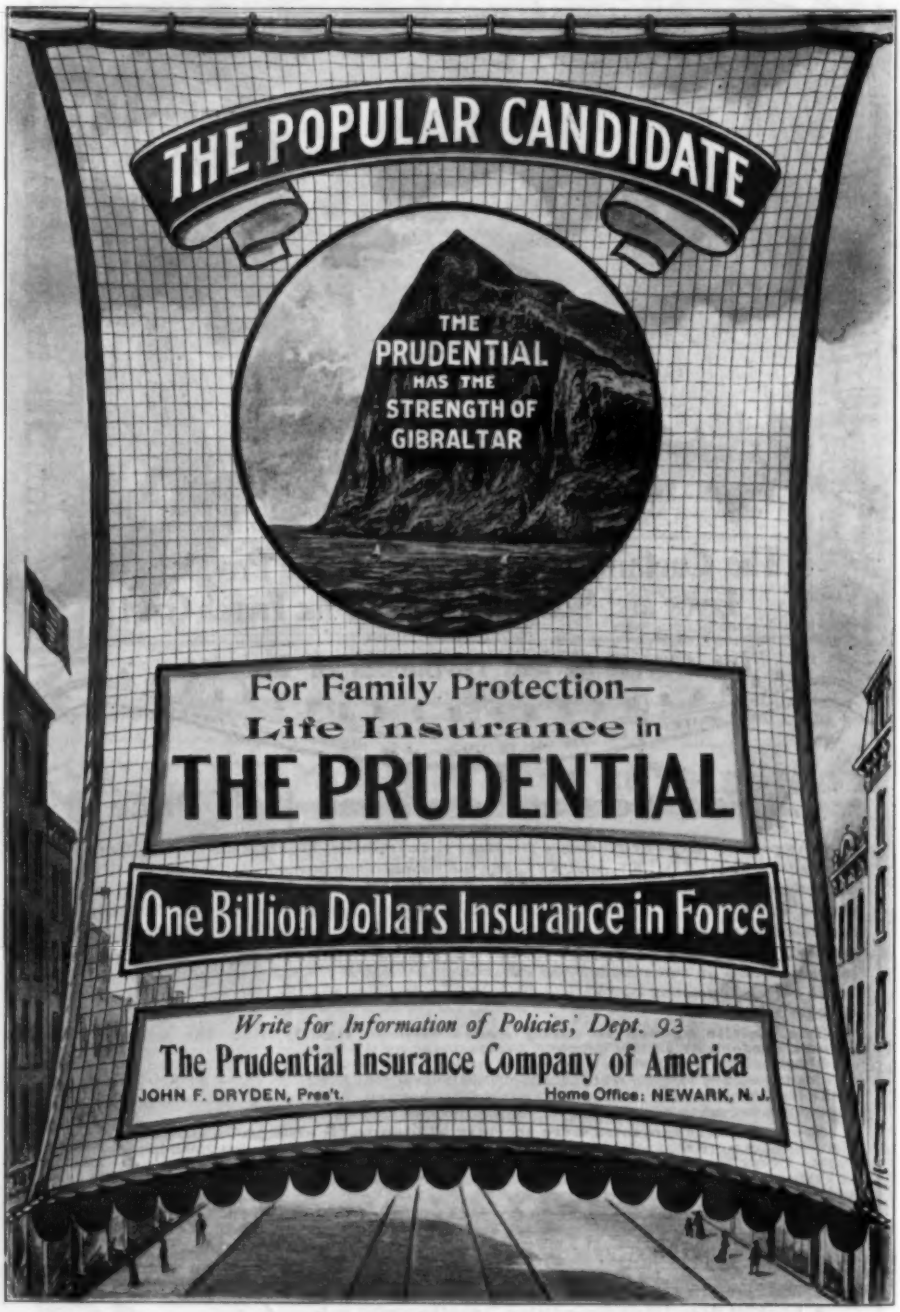
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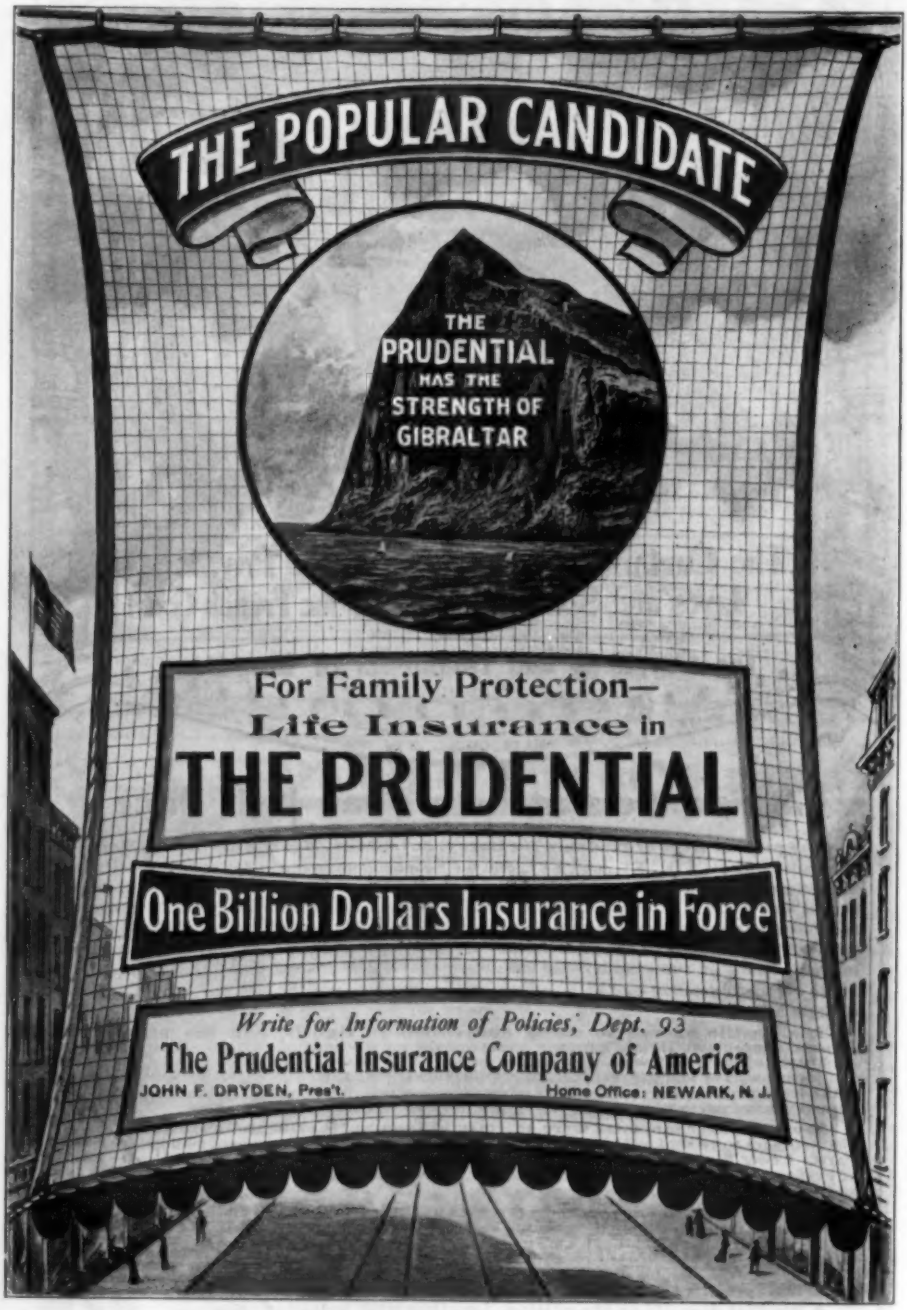
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1904

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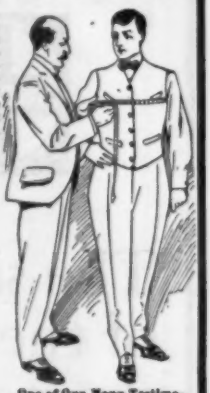

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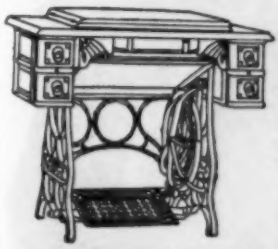

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GINSENG $25,000.00 made from half acre. Easily grown in Garden or Farm. Roots and seeds for sale. Send 4c for postage and get booklet A G, telling all about it. McDOWELL GINSENG GARDEN, JOPLIN, MO.

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Dept. 24 78 Hudson St., New York

OCT 30 1904

Did You Ever See a Nervous Beer Drinker?

Nervousness comes from two causes. One is half-fed nerves.

The malt in beer is a food to them; the hops a tonic. The slight percentage of alcohol is an aid to digestion, and that means more food.

Another cause is the waste that clogs the nerve centers. That waste results from drinking too little to properly flush the system.

The habit of beer drinking gives the body the needed fluid.

That is why beer is prescribed for nervousness. That is why beer-drinking nations scarcely know what nervousness is.

But drink pure beer—Schlitz beer. Bad beer may be worse than the lack of it.

Half the cost of our brewing goes to making Schlitz pure. Ask for the brewery bottling.

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The Beer That Made Milwaukee Famous

This Oriental Calendar, rich in color, will be mailed in novel oriental cloth wrapper *for* 10 cents coin or stamps

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This exquisite calendar is distinctive in design and style, and makes a striking decoration for any home or office. It typifies the joy of living and the spirit of health.

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Pabst Extract is the **first aid to health**—it helps digestion, soothes the nerves, brings rest to the sleepless, and builds up the entire system. It is sold by all druggists.

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The right kind of brain makes money and "does things." You can't have a strong, sturdy, money-making "thinker" unless you feed it on the kind of food the body requires to rebuild the brain and nerves day by day.

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Send for booklet how to prevent and cure disease.

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For over two thousand years the principles of JIU-JITSU, the Japanese national system of physical training and self-defense, have been religiously guarded. By an Imperial edict the teaching of the system was forbidden outside of Japan. The friendly feeling, however, existing between Japan and the United States has been instrumental in releasing JIU-JITSU from its oath bound secrecy, and all its secrets are now being revealed to the American people for the first time by Mr. Y. K. Yabe, formerly of the Ten-Shin Ryu School, who has formulated a correspondence course in Jiu-Jitsu which is identical with the course taught in the leading schools in Japan.

An interesting book explaining the principles of JIU-JITSU has just been written by Mr. Yabe. This book, together with the first lesson in the art, will be sent free to interested persons. The lesson is illustrated from photographs, and shows one of the most effective methods known to Jiu-Jitsu for disposing of a dangerous antagonist. Write to-day for this free book and sample lesson. They will be sent to you by return mail, postpaid. Address

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by our successful system in personal charge of Mr. Henry Litchfield West, formerly managing editor of *Washington Post.* Successful students everywhere. Write for illustrated booklet.

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THE NATIONAL PRESS ASSOCIATION 68 The Baldwin, Indianapolis, Ind.

$150 in Cash

To Everyone Who Names the Ten Most Popular Books

UNTIL January 31st next (1905) we shall break the sets of our new Library of the World's Famous Books and sell you any volume or volumes you choose. There are 20 volumes in the set. **Which 10 volumes out of the 20 will prove to be the most popular.**

Everyone who predicts before Dec. 15th which ten books we shall sell before midnight of Jan. 31st in larger numbers than any of the other ten—in other words, who name the ten most popular ones—will receive **$150 in cash. It is not necessary to name the ten in the order in which they sell, simply name the ten that sell more than any of the other ten.**

Everyone who predicts correctly after Dec. 15th and before Jan. 1st, will receive $100.

The date that governs the amount of these prizes will be the date you **mail** your predictions, as shown by the postmark on the envelope.

We believe we shall secure more friends and more publicity for the Library in this way than by spending one hundred thousand dollars in magazine and newspaper advertising.

We plan to add to this Library from time to time, and expect to do a larger annual business with it than has ever been done with any one set of books. So much to explain why we can afford to pay these large prizes, although we do not hope to make any profit on the present sale

These are the Twenty Volumes

1 Tale of Two Cities	6 Jane Eyre	11 Vanity Fair	16 Romola
2 Darwin's Descent of Man	7 John Halifax	12 Tom Brown's School Days	17 Irving's Sketch Book
3 First Violin	8 Lorna Doone	13 Last of the Mohicans	18 Emerson's Essays
4 Hypatia	9 Darwin's Origin of Species	14 Prince of the House of David	19 Thelma
5 Ivanhoe	10 Uncle Tom's Cabin	15 Robinson Crusoe	20 Last Days of Pompeii

These twenty volumes represent a wide range of taste, but each one is unquestionably among the leaders of its class. Any one who is familiar with these twenty books will never lack a subject of conversation in any company. This prize offer will secure many new readers for these standard works, which should be in every home where the English language is read and spoken.

Hon. William T. Harris, U. S. Commissioner of Education, writes:

DEAR MR. MERRILL—I am glad you are going to introduce a library of such good books into each family of our land.

There are books which furnish keys to our experience and which explain to us great historical epochs and the growth of important national ideas—the birth of new convictions which by and by cause revolutions, political, industrial and educational. You have books in your selection that are eminent examples of several types. You will deserve well of your country if you can persuade the people to buy and read such books.

Yours truly, WILLIAM T. HARRIS.

Dr. Edward Everett Hale writes:

"I am much interested in your plan. The only wonder is that it has not been carried out before. Your list seems to me a very good one, and while, of course, I think I could improve it perhaps? I am sure that if you can circulate these books as you propose, it will be a great advantage to us all."

Truly yours, EDWARD E. HALE.

The Washington Post, of Washington, D. C., one of the best newspapers in the United States, will decide who are the successful contestants, and to what prize each one is entitled.

How the Prizes Will Be Awarded

The entire reputation of our concern, with more than a million dollars capital and eleven years of successful book publishing, is pledged to the fair and square awarding and payment of these prizes. No one in any way connected with our establishment or with The Washington Post, will be allowed to compete. Each prediction will be numbered, dated and registered in a manner that will prevent mistake or fraud. The correctness of the awarding of the prizes will be certified to by Gunn, Richards & Co., the well-known firm of expert accountants and business engineers, of 43 Wall Street, New York. And a statement of the result will be published in the leading newspapers. For

(*CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE*)

$150 to Everyone Who Names the Ten Most Popular Books

(SEE PRECEDING PAGE)

convenience of the Judge of the contest, and to prevent any possible confusion with the rest of our business, this contest will be conducted entirely from Washington, D. C. **Address all inquiries and predictions to World's Famous Book Contest, care The Washington Post, Washington, D. C.**

Use Your Own Brains and Consult Your Friends

Look over the list carefully and make up your mind which ten volumes you would choose for yourself if you could have ten of the twenty, and only ten. If you have average taste in books you won't be far out of the way in naming the ten.

Many learned and bookish people, among them Sir John Lubbock, have published lists of what they considered the world's best hundred books, and some of the magazines have published articles regarding the world's best books. Look up and see how the twenty mentioned here are rated in such lists.

Consult your local book dealer and find out which ten he thinks will sell the best—which he has sold the most of.

Consult the Librarian of any library to which you have access.

Ask public and high school teachers and professors which ten are the best.

Then make your prediction. The more intelligence you put into making your predictions, the greater your prospect of success.

But do this quickly—at once—you must determine quickly to secure one of the larger prizes.

Who May Predict. Limit as to Time and Number

The price of each volume is $1.00. Each book is good, honest value for the dollar. For each volume you buy you are entitled to make one prediction—that is, name the ten volumes which you think will prove most popular—will sell better than the other ten. You may buy any number of volumes up to twenty and make as many different predictions as you buy books. But no person will be allowed to make more than twenty predictions.

Your Money Back if You Wish

Any time within one week after you receive your books (one or more) you may return any or all of them and we will return your money—$1 for each book delivered to us in as good condition as you received it. We wouldn't make this offer if the books were not *all right* would we? This return privilege applies to books bought by mail before Jan. 15th. Books ordered after Jan. 15th will not be returnable, because any withdrawals after that would complicate awarding the prizes.

Those Who Answer Before Dec. 15 Win Most, Skill Being Equal

Act promptly, because the larger prizes go to those who send in the correct list early; but send in your list, even if you do not learn of this offer until the last days of December. Even the smallest prize ($100) is worth having for nothing—and it really costs you nothing, because for every dollar you invest you receive full value in books.

Each volume is carefully printed from good readable type on unusually expensive and handsome laid paper, very white, with ample margins. There are appropriate full page illustrations, an average of six and one-half to the volume. The books are considerably larger than the popular novel size and are bound in ribbed silk vellum, handsome and durable, with gilt tops and an ornamental back design stamped in gold. They will be a credit to your library shelves—a happy medium between sumptuous de luxe volumes, too rich and delicate to be handled and read, on the one hand, and the ordinary cloth book with all the attractiveness squeezed out of it for the sake of cheapening the price.

Each book is full value for a dollar, and we guarantee that this price will never be reduced or cut. Not a volume of this edition will ever be sold for less than One Dollar. The entire object of this plan would be defeated if you were not pleased with the books you buy. We cannot hope to make any profit out of this initial sale. Our profits must come out of future sales in completing the set of which you buy a volume or more now, and in selling sets to your neighbors or friends who will learn of our library by seeing your books. Thus, as you must see, **our success depends on your complete satisfaction with every book you buy.**

We believe we shall secure more publicity for the Library in this way than by spending one hundred thousand dollars in advertising. We expect to do a larger business with these books than has ever been done with any one set of books.

An Ideal Christmas Gift

Can you conceive of a more appropriate Christmas gift than these books? They are ever welcome companions of the old and the young. You can give away the book and keep for yourself this most unusual opportunity to secure one of the prizes.

Simpson Crawford Company, - New York.
Siegel, Cooper & Co., - - - Chicago.
Jordan, Marsh & Co., - - - Boston.

These three stores will sell these books during the contest. Your right to predict will be the same whether you buy by mail from Washington, or at any of these stores. At the stores you can examine the books before buying. These store sales will be counted, of course, in the totals.

Our Responsibility

If you wish to make sure of our financial responsibility and business reputation, consult Dun or Bradstreet, or ask some business acquaintance to "look up" Merrill & Baker, Publishers, New York City. You may be sure this magazine would not publish this advertisement, nor would such firms as

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

$150 to Everyone Who Names the Ten Most Popular Books

(SEE PRECEDING PAGE)

Simpson Crawford Co., New York, Siegel, Cooper & Co., Chicago, and Jordan, Marsh & Co., Boston, cooperate in selling these books, unless they were confident that we would do exactly as we promise.

Address all mail regarding the contest to: World's Famous Books Contest, care The Washington Post, Washington, D. C.

MERRILL & BAKER, Publishers, New York City

$150 May Be Yours by Following These Simple Directions

The Sale closes January 31, 1905. Predictions mailed before Dec. 15, if correct, win $150, if mailed before Jan. 1, the prize is $100. For convenience and accuracy, in making the award, each prediction must be made by number (not by title), and on a *printed* blank. The designating number of each volume is printed just before its title in the above list. Below is a blank order form and prediction blank. Any number of predictions up to 20 may be made on one blank. Each column up and down the page is one prediction—you must make an X across each number you wish to leave out. Leave exactly ten numbers not crossed with an X. These ten NOT crossed represent your prediction. If you order more than one volume, make as many predictions as you buy volumes by using the same number of columns.

If you wish to buy one or more of the books now and not predict till later, use the order form only. A voucher and prediction blank will be sent you with whatever books you order. Then you can predict whenever you make up your mind—but remember the first to predict correctly receive the larger prizes.

Further particulars about the books or the prize plan sent on request

ORDER BLANK

Send for blank if you prefer not to cut this out.

WORLD'S FAMOUS BOOKS CONTEST, care THE WASHINGTON POST, Washington, D. C.

Enclosed please find.....dollars. Send me the ..... volumes NOT crossed off, as follows:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Cross out with an X all volumes not ordered. The list on the first page of this advertisement shows what books each number stands for.

Name.....*City or Town*.....

Bl. Cat—Dec.

Street and Number.....*State*.....

Make one prediction for each volume you buy—use one column for each prediction, beginning with the left-hand column. Cross out with an X all but ten numbers in as many columns as you order volumes. The ten numbers not crossed in each column are the ten you select as the most popular. The list on the first page of this advertisement shows what book each number stands for.

1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
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19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20

Use as many columns as you make predictions.

The 10 numbers *not* crossed out in as many columns as I buy books represent my predictions of the 10 most popular books during the sale ending January 31st, 1905.

Name.....*City or Town*.....

Street and Number.....*State*.....

Bl. Cat Dec. *Send for blank if you prefer not to cut this out.*

If you prefer to buy books now and predict later fill in the order form only. See directions above.

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To every one who writes to us during December and subsequently becomes a student, a set of $15.00 books on Advertising will be given absolutely free.

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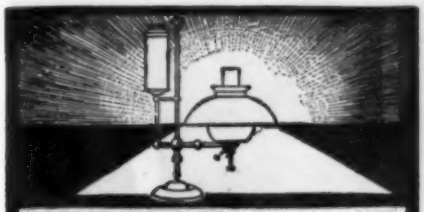

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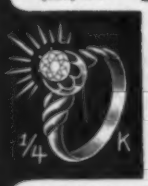

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Many Dealers ask for this Outfit $30.00
Send No Money, but write at once for **Free Samples** and also our Special Premium offer.
Address CHICAGO MFG. & MDSE. CO., Dept. 136, 87-89-91 Washington St., Chicago
Ref.: Metropolitan Trust and Savings Bank, Capital, $750,000, or any Express Company in Chicago.

ONE OF OUR MANY TESTIMONIALS

Chicago Mfg. & Mdse. Co. Lahaska, Pa., June 28, 1904.
Dear Sirs — I received the suit, hat, shoes etc., just as you represented them; they fit splendid, Thanking you kindly for your square and honest dealings,
I remain, yours truly,
CLINTON G. HOPKINS, Box 28, Lahaska, Pa.
[**Chicago Mfg. & Mdse. Co. guarantee the above to be genuine**]

The **CHRISTMAS GIFT** that will please your husband, brother or friend beyond question, is the

ORIGINAL AND MECHANICALLY PERFECT

Star Safety Razor and the New Star Stropper

This handsomely finished safety razor has stood the most exacting test for the past 25 years. THE MAN WHO SHAVES HIMSELF, and is shaved to his satisfaction, knows how necessary it is to keep his razor blades in perfect condition. It is impossible for any blade to do its work properly unless stropped before using. Over 5,000,000 Star Safety Razors have been used by individuals in all parts of the world—at home, also while traveling by boat or train. The STAR SAFETY RAZOR has been imitated by numerous manufacturers of so-called safety razors. For this reason be sure that in buying a razor you find three stars stamped on the frame and blade. We guarantee this razor, and if not perfectly satisfactory we will cheerfully refund you the price. Our catalogue, giving illustrations of the different sets, prices, etc., sent on request. In sending for this catalogue please mention the magazine in which you saw this advertisement.

The **Star Safety Razor** has been **imitated** but never **duplicated.** (In purchasing a razor please remember the above fact.)

Razor, complete, $2.00. Handsome Sets, $2.50 and up. New Star Stropper, $1.50

KAMPFE BROS., 8-12 Reade St., N.Y. or all leading dealers in high-class cutlery. (Remember the word "STAR")

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The Editor of OUTDOORS invites suggestions on subjects of human interest and of refreshing nature in the open air field :: :: :: :: ::

The pages of this magazine of Country Life will be made just as interesting, from month to month, as we can make them with the help of men and women who love to live under the blue sky ::

The Outdoor idea is growing wonderfully, and there are thousands of men and women who are learning how to live better outdoors, who could tell stories that more thousands would be glad to read :: :: :: :: :: ::

Tell your story in your own way, and if you have photographs to send—send them :: :: :: :: ::

The Editor, OUTDOORS

150 Fifth Ave., New York City

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The perfect Seasoning for

Soups, Salads, Oysters, Clams, Fish, Sauces, Roasts, Gravies, etc.

Indispensable for the table and in kitchen. Imparts delicious flavor. Insures good digestion. Purer and more healthful than ground pepper.

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Used in leading Hotels, Clubs and Restaurants for nearly half a century. **AT ALL DEALERS.**

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A **Complete Carpet for $2.50**

The newest, cheapest, and most attractive floor covering made is our

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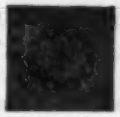

woven in one piece, all sizes and colors, handsome patterns. Can be used on either side. Easily cleaned, warranted to outwear higher priced carpets. **Delivered free** and can be returned and money refunded if not as represented. Positively the cheapest and best thing of the kind manufactured. **There are none so good.** Catalogue free, showing goods in actual colors; send to place nearest you.

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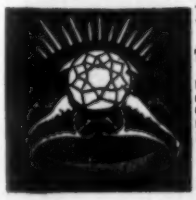

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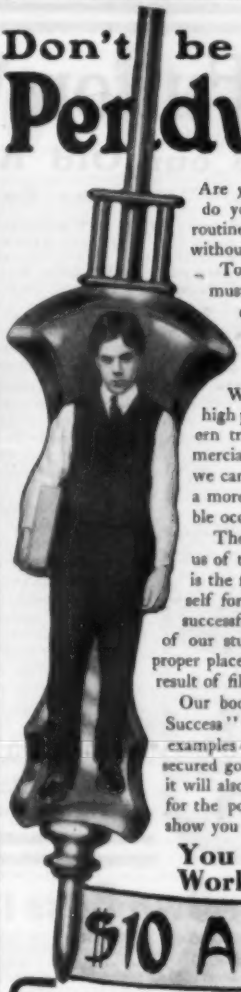
Don't be a Pendulum



Are *you* like a pendulum—do you go through the same routine day in and day out without advancing?

To broaden your field you must broaden yourself. Increase your knowledge, and your position and salary will increase as a matter of course.

We can qualify you for a high position in a leading modern trade, profession or commercial pursuit; or if dissatisfied, we can help you to change to a more congenial and profitable occupation.

The filling in and mailing to us of the coupon shown below is the first step in fitting yourself for a better position and a successful career. Thousands of our students have found their proper place in the world as the final result of filling in **this coupon.**

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We Pay Express Charges

Four full quart bottles of **Fulton Whiskey** either Rye or Bourbon, in plain wooden box by express **prepaid** for **$3.00** or two gallons shipped in Myers' patent glass demijohns, securely packed in plain wooden box, express **prepaid** for **$5.00.** Most of our customers buy in our demijohns to save $1.00 on every two gallons ordered. Or, if you prefer,

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Fulton Whiskey is distilled in the "blue grass" country with unequaled natural advantages of climate, water, and grain for producing the kind of whiskey that has made Kentucky famous. It is aged in charred oak casks until free from fusel oil and assumes that exquisite bouquet, mellow flavor so entirely satisfying. Try it; you will make an agreeable discovery.

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By buying directly from us, the sole owners of U. S. Registered Distillery No. 22, 6th District Kentucky, you don't pay profits to rectifiers, wholesalers, and retailers, and this explains how we can sell two gallons of the best whiskey the world has ever known for anywhere near a similar price.

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RICE contains more nutriment and supplies more energy to the human body than anything that grows out of the ground, and is the easiest food to digest.

MALT as a marvelously beneficial stimulant and tonic, man had known for centuries, but only yesterday did he learn to combine it to the greatest advantage with his food.

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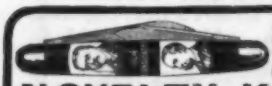

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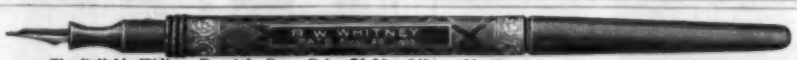

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Pen will be sent free for examination. After purchase and 6 days' trial, money will be refunded if pen is unsatisfactory.
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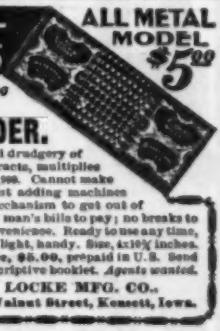

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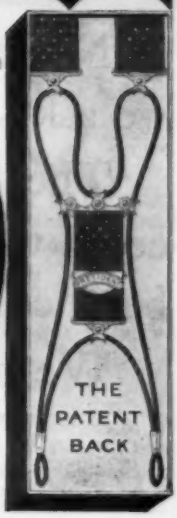

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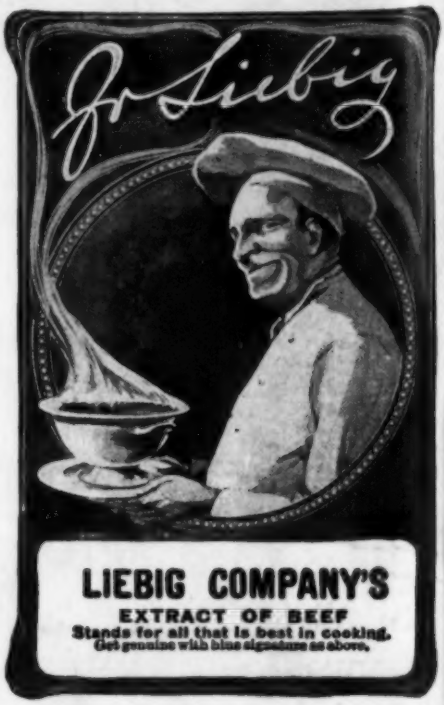

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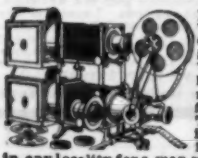

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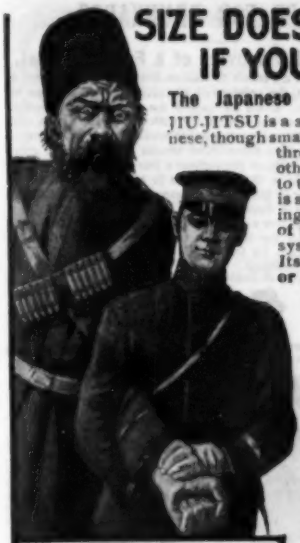

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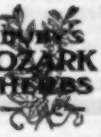

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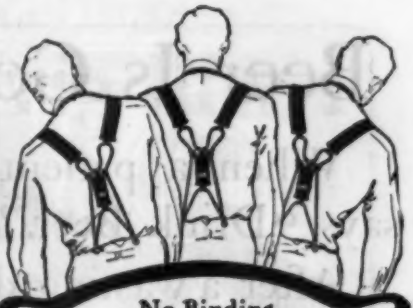

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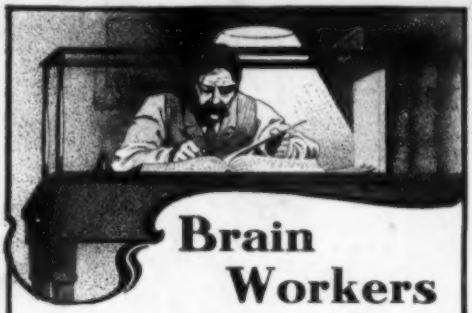

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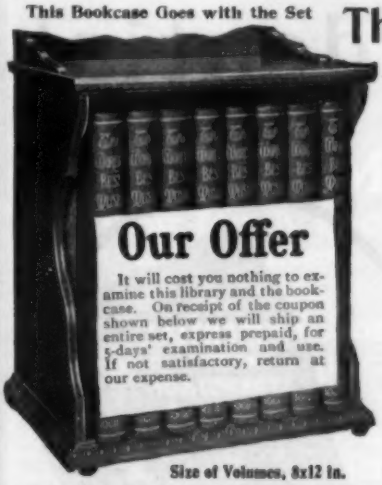

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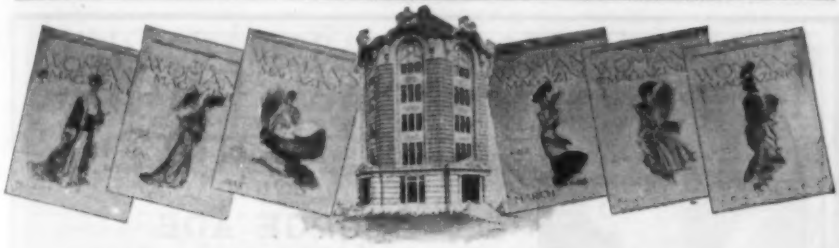

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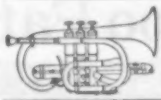
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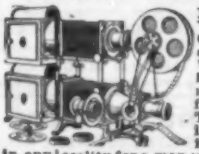

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If the lungs, heart, nerves and every vital organ of the body are kept in uniform strength, there is no need of drugs or medicine. "A chain is no stronger than its weakest link." The permanent relief from weaknesses can only be in **regaining the strength** of weakened organs. In the recent National Convention of Druggists, it was shown that about 8,000 out of the 40,000 druggists are handling adulterated drugs, and probably fifty per cent of the drugs contain morphine.

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I HAVE HELPED 15,000 WOMEN TO HELP THEMSELVES

My instructions by mail are strictly individual and strictly confidential. I direct the exercise, bathing and diet adapted to your condition, teach you how to breathe, how to stand, how to walk; I strengthen the stomach and the nerves so that your food will nourish you; strengthen the liver, kidneys and intestines so that all impurities are thrown from your system; stimulate a sluggish circulation, send the blood bounding through your veins, so that you feel warm and comfortable; put you in condition to resist colds; strengthen weak hearts and lungs, relieve you of weaknesses, lame backs and headaches. When this is done you will have a clear brain, a quick perception, and a vibrant life force. If your vital organs and muscles are packed about by too much fat, I reduce you to normal proportions. If you are thin, I put the vital organs and the nerves in condition so that you will assimilate your food.

I wish you could read the mail on my desk for one day—it would make you happy as it does me. I am quoting to you below extracts from some letters from my pupils. Some of these names I have permission to give—others I have not—but I can duplicate any one of these extracts many times a day.

"The lump in my side which the doctors called a tumor has entirely disappeared and I am so happy, Miss Cocroft."
"I weigh 82 lbs., less, and have gained wonderfully in strength."
"My kidneys are much better."
"My stomach does not bother me at all now; I can eat anything."
"Just think of it! To be relieved from constipation. Entirely free after having it for thirty years."
"The rheumatism has disappeared, and I sleep such a restful sleep."
"Have grown from a nervous wreck into a state of good, quiet nerves."
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"I have not had a sign of gall stones since I began your work."

I take but a limited number of pupils, because I give each pupil my personal attention. I do not work with a woman unless I am sure that I can help her. I know I can reduce Prominent Abdomens and Hips, build up Thin Necks and Chests and bring any woman to roundness and symmetry. I have done all of these hundreds and hundreds of times. It is no longer an experiment with me. Write to me, telling me your particular difficulties and I will send you letters from my pupils and give you the names of women who have been relieved of above and other difficulties. I will send you an instructive booklet on how to stand correctly. Every woman should know this if she would be perfectly well.

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Susanna Cocroft.

Dept. 11, 75 Washington St., CHICAGO.

FILL OUT, CUT OFF AND MAIL THIS BLANK NOW!

Name

Address

Dept. 11.

Will you not mark with the letter (X) on the attached blank the points which interest you and if there are any particulars in regard to your case which you feel I need, write me about them also, and I will tell you frankly whether I can help you.

Too thin
Round shouldered
Superfluous flesh
Prominent hips.
Protruding abdomen
Height
Weight
Do you stand correctly
Thin chest
Thin bust
Thin neck
Complexion
Do you walk gracefully
Weakness
Lame back
Dulness
Irritable
Nerves
Headaches
Catarrh
Dizziness
Indigestion
Constipation
Liver
Kidneys
Lungs
Heart
Throat
Colds
Rheumatism
Circulation
Blood
Is your health or figure imperfect in any way not mentioned here?
Occupation
What is your age?
Married or single?

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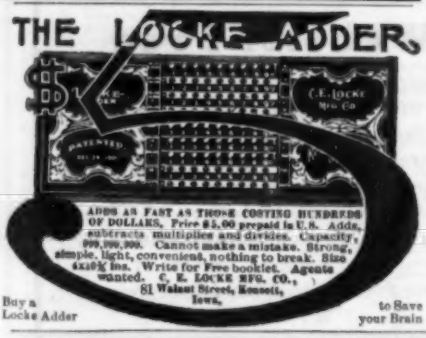

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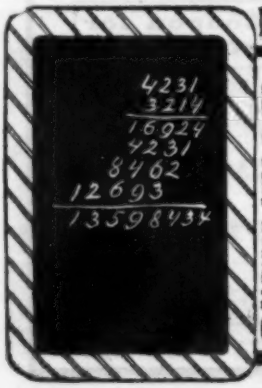

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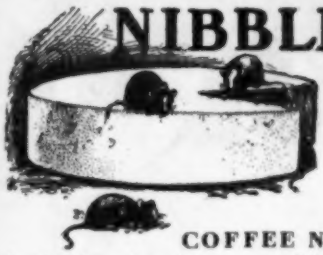

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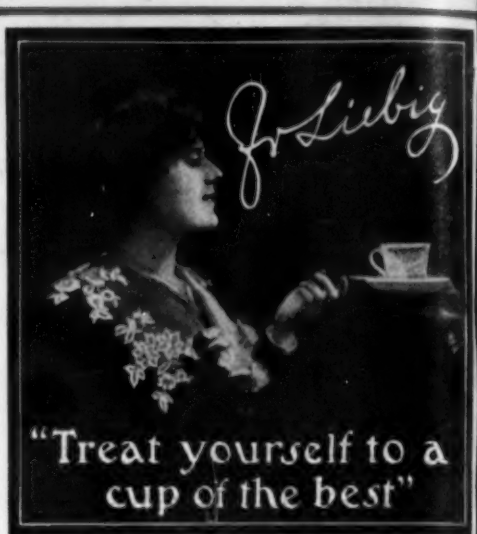

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Paid Policyholders during 1904, over	13 Million Dollars
Total Payments to Policyholders, to Dec. 31, 1904, over	92 Million Dollars
Number of Policies in force, nearly	6 Million
Increase in Number of Policies in Force, over	One-half Million
Cash Dividends and Other Concessions not Stipulated in Original Contracts and Voluntarily Given to Holders of Old Policies to Date, over	5 Million Dollars

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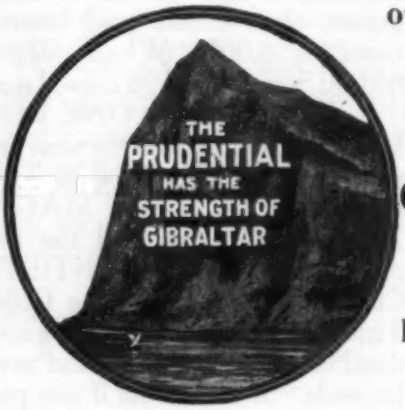

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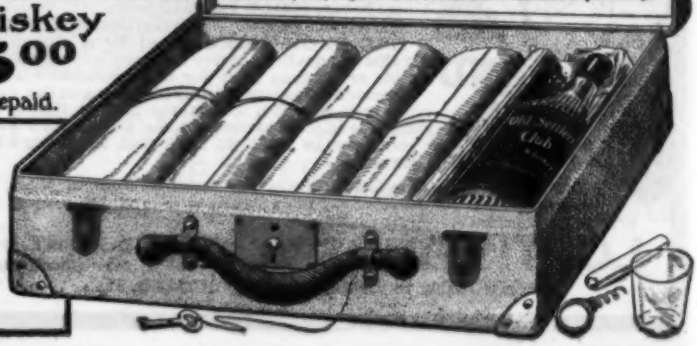

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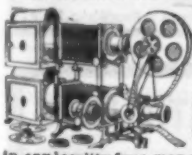

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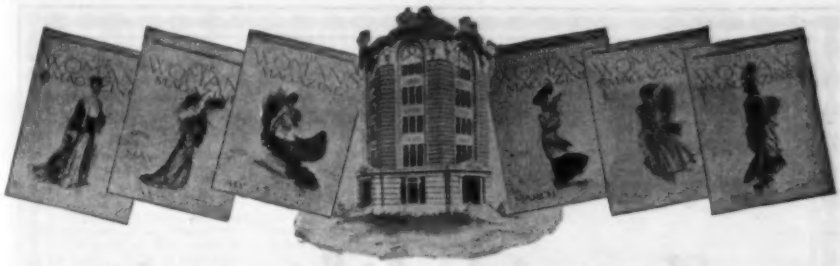

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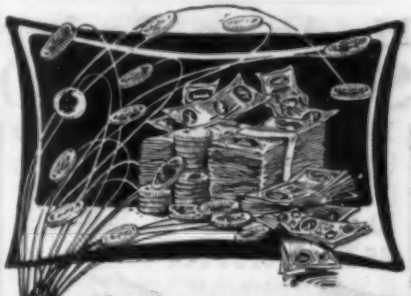

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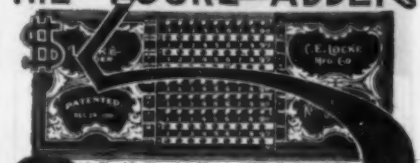

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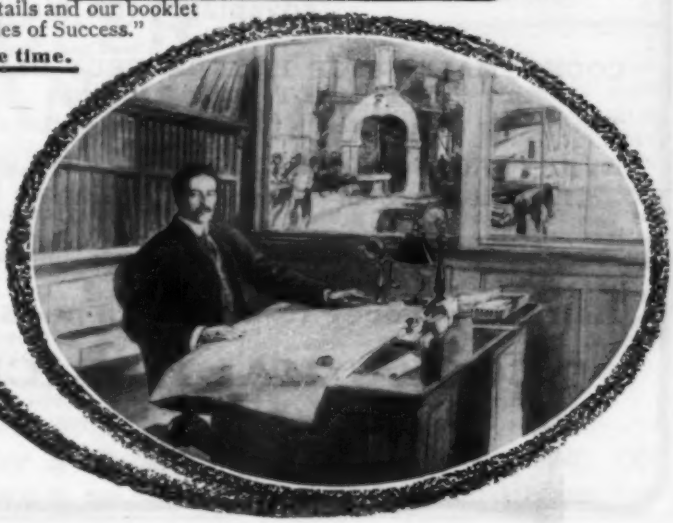

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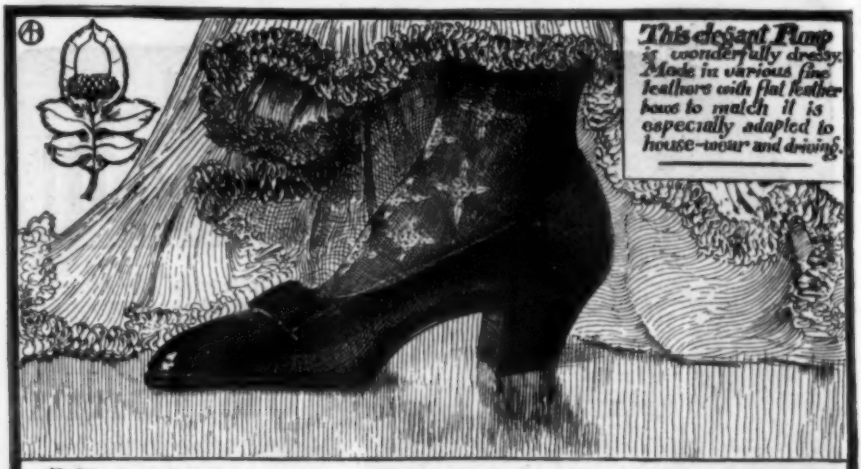

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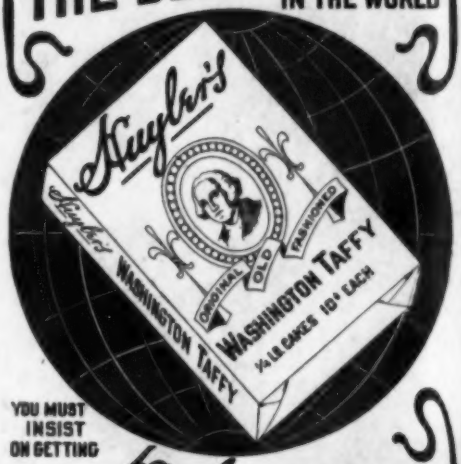

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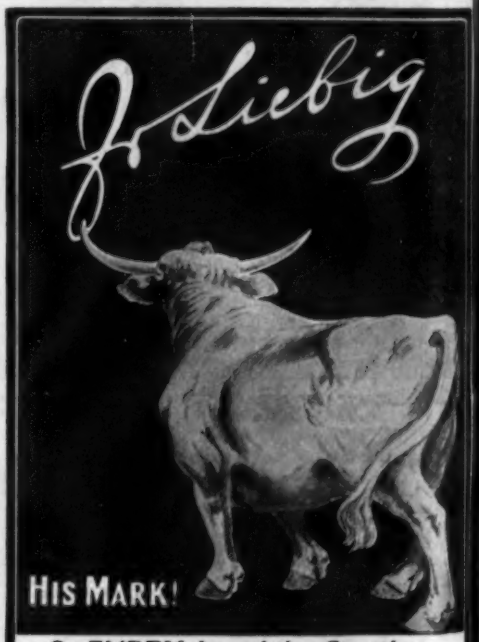

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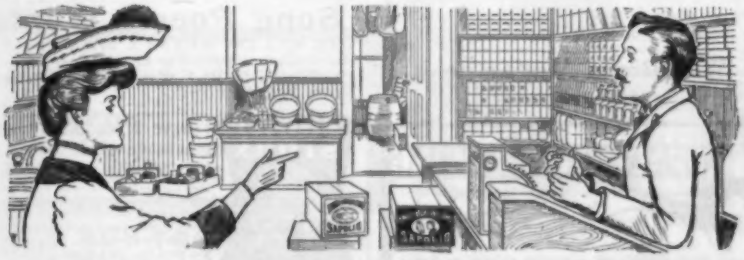

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Carefully Selected Assortments, $2, $3 and $5.
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DIAMONDS
ON CREDIT

Gold Medal Awarded at St. Louis Exposition

DIAMONDS
WIN HEARTS

THEY are Cupid's chief ally when he angles for a fair one's heart. On a woman's finger, a sparkling solitaire bespeaks and reflects some man's enduring regard and affection. Worn by a man, a Diamond bespeaks prosperity; in fact it helps to gain it, and renders literally true the saying—"To be successful, look successful." **YOU CAN WEAR A DIAMOND.**

Your First Step is to write for our beautifully illustrated 1905 Catalogue, every page of which is laden with reproductions of the latest and most artistic Diamond pieces, watches and jewels. Your first impression will be of a bewildering variety of the finest goods at most reasonable and attractive prices.

Making a Selection. Some one particular piece will, we believe, attract your attention, and we hope create a desire to see and examine it closely. If so, you have only to designate it to us, and it will be our immediate pleasure to send it to you **on approval.** We do this without expecting you to assume the slightest obligation to buy, and without incurring a penny of expense for we prepay everything.

Decide for Yourself. If your selection pleases you in every way; if you believe it to be splendid value for the price asked, pay one-fifth and it is yours to wear, or to place upon a loved one's finger. The balance you may send to us in eight equal monthly payments. The entire transaction may be as confidential as you wish, and if you prefer, may be a strictly personal matter of business between ourselves.

Guarantee. The quality of anything sent you is absolutely guaranteed. No Diamond leaves our establishment without a signed certificate of value and quality. The signature attached is the one of greatest responsibility in the Diamond and Jewelry trade.

Advantages Offered. There are certain advantages offered by our house that are clearly beyond the reach of small concerns. We are for instance, the largest retailers of Diamonds in the world, and the only Diamond Cutters in the world offering their product at retail. These facts are very significant of the price advantages which we can offer. The quality of our goods is attested by the Highest Award made in the Diamond and Jewelry section at the Saint Louis Exposition; while our responsibility is attested by the highest commercial rating (by far the highest) enjoyed by any house in our line of business.

Our Credit Offer is open to any adult of earning capacity and honest intentions in the United States. The account of the small salaried employee for anything within reasonable requirements, is just as welcome on our books, as is that of his or her well-to-do employer. The **LOFTIS SYSTEM** is open to every honest man and woman.

Please write to-day for Catalogue and Souvenir Booklet.

Loftis Bros. & Co. (Est. 1858)

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FREE

Handsome Durable **Suit Case**

Whiskey Glass, Corkscrew

& **Five Full Quarts** of

OLD SETTLERS CLUB Whiskey

for $5.00

Express Prepaid.

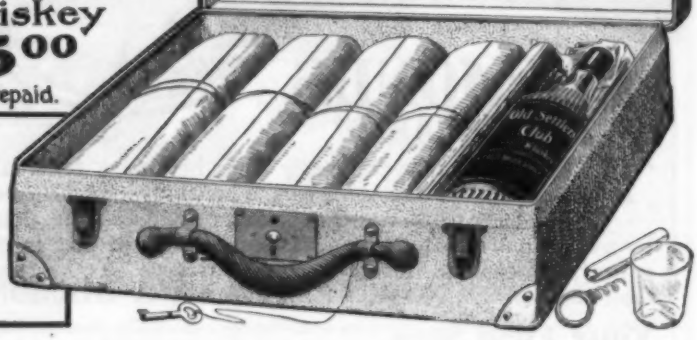
Packed Securely No Marks to Show Contents

A WONDERFUL OFFER

this handsome and durable Leather Handle Dress Suit Case regular gentlemen's size, fine brass locks and trimmings, **Absolutely FREE** with 5 full quarts 10-year old "Old Settlers Club Whiskey," securely packed. No marks to show contents. All express charges prepaid upon receipt of $5.00. When you receive the whiskey try it. Put it to any test you like. Show it to your physician; if he does not say that it is the purest, smoothest, most palatable and best whiskey for medicinal use that it is possible to obtain or get from anybody at three times our price (which is $5.00 for 5 full quarts including Dress Suit Case) box it up and return it, and your money will be returned to you at once. This offer is made for a short time only in order to add new customers.

THE CHICAGO TABLE SUPPLY CO., 265 to 267 State St., Chicago

For orders from Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Washington, New Mexico, Utah, Oregon add $1.50 extra on account of excessive express charges.



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HAD PADS *Antiseptic Soothing Healing*

Build new flesh. The only true and absolute cure

FOR CORNS

6 for 10c—all druggists or direct from

ELDWARD-WOODRIDGE HAD MFG. CO.

P. O. Box 257, Yonkers, New York

To Introduce Pads we will send 12 pads for 10 cents upon receipt of this advertisement and your druggist's name.

STRAIGHT LEGS

If yours are not so, they will appear straight and trim if you wear our Pneumatic or Cushion Rubber Forms. Adjusted instantly, impossible to detect, easy as a garter. Highly recommended by army and navy officers, actors, tailors, physicians and men of fashion. Photo-illustrated book and testimonials mailed free under plain letter seal.

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"The Nation's pleasure ground and sanitarium."—*David Bennett Hill.*

THE ADIRONDACK MOUNTAINS.

The lakes and streams in the Adirondack Mountains are full of fish; the woods are inviting, the air is filled with health, and the nights are cool and restful. If you visit this region once, you will go there again. An answer to almost any question in regard to the Adirondacks will be found in No. 20 of the "Four-Track Series," "The Adirondack Mountains and How to Reach Them;" issued by the

NEW YORK CENTRAL

A copy will be mailed free on receipt of a two-cent stamp, by George H. Daniels, General Passenger Agent, Grand Central Station, New York.

THE
EQUITABLE

HENRY B. HYDE
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STRONGEST IN THE WORLD

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$2,500 A YEAR FOR LIFE.

The Equitable Life Assurance Society paid yesterday the claim on policy No. 906,674. This was one of the Society's new Continuous Instalment Policies; and under it the widow of the deceased is guaranteed $2,500 a year as long as she lives. As the widow is only about thirty-five years of age, it is probable that she will live to receive the income for thirty-five years, or even more.

—New York Tribune.

The assured under the above mentioned policy had only paid $7240 in premiums. In return for this amount, the Equitable must pay $50,000, and may pay $100,000 or even more.

If you would like full information regarding this new form of policy send coupon below, or write, for leaflet.

Splendid opportunities for men of character to act as representatives.

Write to GAGE E. TARBELL 2nd Vice President.

THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

120 Broadway, New York. Dept. No. 115.

Please send me information regarding a Continuous Instalment Endowment for $ ....issued to a person .....years of age.

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Address.....

Cook's Malto-Rice

A Pure, Ready-to-eat Rice, Malted

RICE contains more nutriment and supplies more energy to the human body than anything that grows out of the ground, and is the easiest food to digest.

MALT as a marvelously beneficial stimulant and tonic, man had known for centuries, but only yesterday did he learn to combine it to the greatest advantage with his food.

COOK'S MALTO-RICE IS A PERFECT BLENDING OF MALT AND RICE.

Thoroughly cooked, ready to serve from package to dish.

EVERY PACKAGE OF MALTO-RICE IS STERILIZED.

It's pure, free from "lumps," germs, and will keep.

Ask your grocer to-day for a package of

COOK'S MALTO-RICE

15 Cents

One-Third of a Century

Standard of the World

A delicious beautifier, preserver and cleanser of the teeth; makes the breath sweet and the gums less tender. **The metal box** is a handy package for toilet table and traveling; no powder to litter, no liquid to spill or stain.

25 cents, at all druggists.

C. H. STRONG & CO., Props., Chicago, U. S. A.

QUILTED MATTRESS PADS

THREE SCORE and TEN YEARS is a long life, yet about THIRTY YEARS of it is spent in bed. Then why not make your bed as comfortable as it can be made.

Quilted Mattress Pads will not only make it comfortable, but as they are spread over the mattress, they will protect it, and will keep your bed or baby's crib in a perfect Sanitary condition.

Quilted Mattress Pads wash perfectly, and are as good as new after laundering.

They are sold in all sizes by
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THE highest musical ideals can only be met in an instrument whose every note has been made perfect by the lifelong effort of artist and artisan.

The very first Gabler product was an art product, and since that time

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have been constantly elevated by over half a century of manufacture, during which nothing has sufficed other than the creation of pure art ideals and their perfect transmission by skilled workmanship and selected materials.

That is why Gabler holds its lofty and unimitable place in the musical world to-day, and is selected by critical and cultured musicians the world over as the purest medium of soul expression.

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A set of Seven Pictures, portraying the different stages of Osculation, taken from life. (Posed by Miss Camille Clifford, the most talked about actress of the day, now appearing in London.)

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The portraits are cabinet size, in duo-tone colors, reproducing the original photographs, and a rich maroon border giving the exact effect of seven photos, mounted on a mat, ready for framing. The idea is altogether unique, and copyrighted by AINSLEE'S MAGAZINE. This series of remarkable photos can only be secured from AINSLEE'S.

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THE WALTER M. LOWNEY CO., 447 COMMERCIAL STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

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CASH Paid for Good Stories, Verses, Jokes, Drawings and Photographs. Send TWELVE Cents in Silver Today for One Year of the Most Unique Magazine in the World

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THE REMEMBER-ME UMBRELLA RIB RETAINER AND CARRIER

A clip, handsomely nickeled and engraved. Holds ribs together; has two tongues to enable you to hang umbrella from your coat pocket or hat rack; removed from umbrella and attached to your clothing serves as a reminder when you are ready to go.

Sent postpaid for 10 cents.

Mail Order Men and Dealers send for circulars and special terms.

ATLANTIC MANUFACTURING COMPANY
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Raise Money Raising **25c Book Free**

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That every reader of The Black Cat may learn how large profits are to be made through the planting of Ginseng, in a small garden space, I am distributing a limited edition of my regular 25 cent book absolutely without charge.

I am *Thompson* of Scranton, the Ginseng Man, I sell the true American Ginseng roots and seed, and guarantee them. Write for book today. Agents wanted.

ARTHUR C. THOMPSON, Dep't 161
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Look for the name

The Original. Others are Imitations

THE OLD ENGLISH CANDY

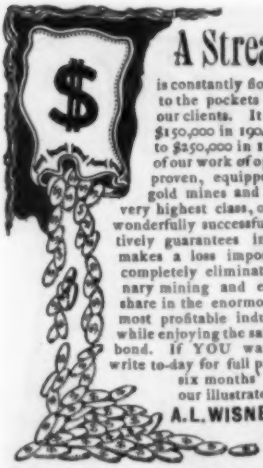
The enormous sales of this old English candy in this country as well as abroad have made it a great international candy.

MACKINTOSH'S TOFFEE

has built up a reputation on its merits alone. The absolute purity and special flavor that characterize it is what makes it so popular.

Sold by all dealers. If yours hasn't it, write me. Ten-cent package by mail. A four-pound Family Tin for $1.60. Try your dealer first.

JOHN MACKINTOSH,
Dept. 24 78 Hudson St., New York



A Stream of Gold

is constantly flowing from our mines to the pockets of nearly 10,000 of our clients. It amounted to nearly $150,000 in 1904; it should amount to $250,000 in 1905. It is the result of our work of operating, developed, proven, equipped, dividend-paying gold mines and oil properties of the very highest class, on a safe, sound and wonderfully successful system that positively guarantees immense profits and makes a loss impossible. Our system completely eliminates the risks of ordinary mining and enables investors to share in the enormous dividends of the most profitable industries in the world, while enjoying the safety of a government bond. If YOU want to make money write to-day for full particulars, including six months' free subscription to our illustrated mining paper.

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MONEY All our clients are making money every week, every month and every year. Accounts can be withdrawn on demand. Mercantile and financial references. Booklet mailed upon request. LESLIE, MORRIS & CO., Incorporated, The Bourse, Philadelphia, Pa.

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Half interest in a business having customers in every state in the Union, Canada, and orders for export: a monopoly in several lines with a large and rapidly increasing demand, can be secured for $5,000 to be used in increasing business by adding to stock. A business of great magnitude will quickly develop and pay large profits. Profits range from one hundred to one thousand per cent. This is a great opportunity for a lady or gentleman of integrity and honor. If desired, a position paying well may be secured, as there is plenty of work in this busy and growing enterprise.

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SUPERFLUOUS HAIR
PERMANENTLY REMOVED

By My Scientific Treatment Especially Prepared for Each Individual Case.

I suffered for years with a humiliating growth of hair on my face, and tried many remedies without success; but I ultimately discovered the **True Secret** for the permanent removal of hair, and for more than seven years have been applying my treatment to others, thereby rendering happiness to, and gaining thanks of, thousands of ladies.

I assert and **Will Prove to You,** that my treatment will destroy the follicle and otherwise **Permanently Remove the Hair Forever.** No trace is left on the skin after using, and the treatment can be applied privately by yourself in your own chamber.

IF YOU ARE TROUBLED, WRITE TO ME

for further information, and I will convince you of all I claim. I will give prompt personal and **Strictly Confidential** attention to your letter. Being a woman, I know of the delicacy of such a matter as this, and act accordingly. *Address,*

HELEN DOUGLAS, **166 Douglas Building, 35 West 21st St., NEW YORK CITY.**

My **PU-RE-CO SOAP and CREAM** removes and prevents wrinkles and preserves the skin. May be had at all the best druggists or direct from me.

PU-RE-CO CREAM,.....50c. and $1.00 a jar.
PU-RE-CO SOAP, a Box of Three Cakes.....50c.

Fat People

I Can Reduce Your Weight 3 to 5 Pounds a Week Without Any Radical Change in What You Eat; no nauseating drugs, no tight bandages nor sickening cathartics. **I am a Regular Practicing Physician, Making a Specialty of the Reduction of Superfluous Flesh;** and after you have taken my treatment a few weeks you will say: "I never felt better in my life."

Safe, Prompt and Certain

By my new, original scientific treatment your weight will be reduced without causing wrinkles or flabbiness of skin. Heavy abdomen, **DOUBLE OR UNDER CHIN** or other disagreeable evidences of Obesity will disappear. Your form will acquire symmetry as the bulk of fat is removed; complexion will be cleared; troubles of heart, kidneys, stomach or other vital organs will be remedied; and you will be delightfully astonished at the promptness and ease with which these results are accomplished under my system.

Satisfaction guaranteed. Call on me personally, or write, addressing Department as given below, for my new book on "Obesity—Its Cause and Cure." It is interesting, convincing and instructive. It will be sent you free and prepaid; don't send any money. Confidential correspondence invited from all, especially physicians. Address plainly and confidentially.

UNITED STATES MEDICAL DISPENSARY,
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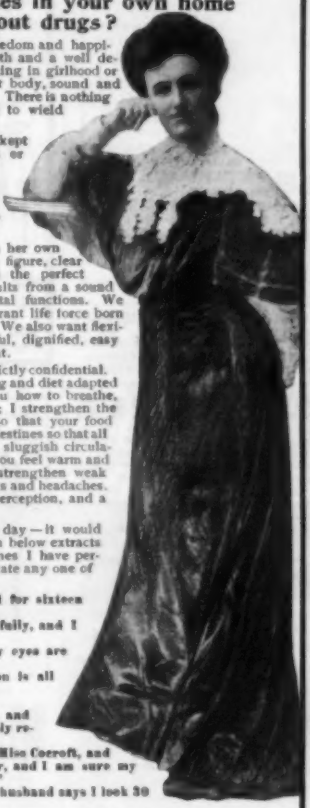
What Will You Give

For Health and a Good Figure

Will you give me 15 minutes in your own home and get well without drugs?

—Perfectly, completely well, with that glad, joyous freedom and happiness in life and sweet personal loveliness which health and a well developed, graceful body alone can give? There is nothing in girlhood or womanhood as lovely as a healthy, vigorous, well-kept body, sound and sweet and wholesome, full of life and strength and fire. There is nothing which gives a woman such power to win love and to wield influence.



DRUGS ARE DANGEROUS

If the lungs, heart, nerves and every vital organ are kept strong, there is no need of drugs or medicine. The permanent relief from weaknesses can only be in **regaining the strength** of weakened organs. It has been shown that about 8,000 out of the 40,000 druggists are handling adulterated drugs, and probably fifty per cent. of the drugs contain morphine.

EVERY WOMAN CAN HAVE A CLEAR SKIN AND GOOD FIGURE

Any woman by practising fifteen minutes each day in her own room can have a good figure, clear skin, strong brain and the perfect bodily poise which results from a sound condition of all the vital functions. We women do not want large muscles, but we want that vibrant life force born of a healthful spirit which makes life worth living. We also want flexible, symmetrical, well-rounded figures with that graceful, dignified, easy carriage which denotes character, culture and refinement.

I HAVE HELPED 15,000 WOMEN TO HELP THEMSELVES

My instructions by mail are strictly individual and strictly confidential. I direct the exercise, bathing and diet adapted to your condition, teach you how to breathe, how to stand, how to walk; I strengthen the stomach and the nerves so that your food will nourish you; strengthen the liver, kidneys and intestines so that all impurities are thrown from your system; stimulate a sluggish circulation, send the blood bounding through your veins, so you feel warm and comfortable; put you in condition to resist colds; strengthen weak hearts and lungs, relieve you of weaknesses, lame backs and headaches. When this is done you will have a clear brain, a quick perception, and a vibrant life force.

I wish you could read the mail on my desk for one day—it would make you happy as it does me. I am quoting to you below extracts from some letters from my pupils. Some of these names I have permission to give—others I have not—but I can duplicate any one of these extracts many times a day.

"I have a better color in my face than I have had for sixteen years."

"My neck, chest and bust are filling out beautifully, and I have gained 13 pounds in the last two months."

"I have left off my glasses, Miss Cocroft, and my eyes are stronger."

"Just think! I can eat anything—my indigestion is all gone."

"My catarrh is entirely cured."

"The kidneys and liver are working splendidly, and after twenty years my constipation seems to be entirely relieved."

"I have not had a headache since my first lesson, Miss Cocroft, and the doctor says my heart and lungs are much stronger, and I am sure my nerves are. Those neuralgic pains are entirely gone."

"I have lost 66 pounds. Can you believe it? My husband says I look 30 years younger."

"Those lumps which I feared were tumors have all gone, and I have no more rheumatism. I'm so happy."

I take but a limited number of pupils, because I give each pupil my personal attention. I do not work with a woman unless I am sure I can help her. I know I can reduce Prominent Abdomen and Hips, build up Thin Necks and Chests and bring any woman to roundness and symmetry. I have done all of these hundreds and hundreds of times. It is no longer an experiment with me.

MY BOOKLET AND ADVICE ARE FREE

Write to me, telling me your particular difficulties and I will send you letters from pupils and give you the names of women who have been relieved of above and other difficulties. I will send you an instructive booklet on how to stand correctly. Every woman should know this if she would be perfectly well. I charge you nothing for this booklet and nothing for my information in regard to your case. Do not hesitate to write me. I hold pupils' letters in confidence.

Susanna Cocroft.

Dept. 11, 57 Washington St., CHICAGO.

FILL OUT, CUT OFF AND MAIL THIS BLANK NOW!

Name

Address

Dept. 11.

Will you not mark with the letter (X) on the attached blank the points which interest you and if there are any particulars in regard to your case which you feel I need, write me about them also, and I will tell you frankly whether I can help you.

Too thin
Round shouldered
Superfluous flesh
Prominent hips
Protruding abdomen
Height
Weight
Do you stand correctly
Thin chest
Thin bust
Thin neck
Complexion
Do you walk gracefully
Weakness
Lame back
Dulness
Irritable
Nerves
Headaches
Catarrh
Dizziness
Indigestion
Constipation
Liver
Kidneys
Lungs
Heart
Throat
Colds
Rheumatism
Circulation
Blood
Is your health or figure imperfect in any way not mentioned here?
Occupation
What is your age?
Married or single?

Miss Cocroft, as President of the Physical Culture Extension Work in America, has had an unusually wide experience in diagnosing cases and prescribing individual work for women.

RUPTURE CURED while you work. You pay $4.00 when cured. No cure, no pay.
ALEX SPEIRS, Box 218, WESTBROOK, ME.

BARODA DIAMONDS.
....JUST DISCOVERED....
Brilliant as the genuine; one-thirtieth the cost; stand acid test; and PUZZLE EXPERTS; SOLID GOLD MOUNTING; thorough examination allowed before payments. Write for catalogue and special terms, etc. Agents wanted.
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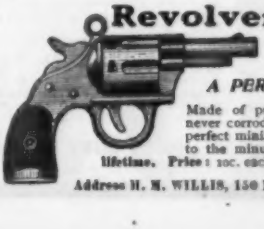
71 Wabash Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.



Revolver Watch Charm

A PERFECT BEAUTY

Made of pure aluminum; will never corrode or tarnish. It is a perfect miniature pistol, clean cut to the minutest detail. Lasts a lifetime. Price: 10c. each, 3 for 25c., 6 for 50c.

Address H. M. WILLIS, 150 Nassau St., New York

ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE

Shake Into Your Shoes

Allen's Foot-Ease, **a powder for the feet.** It cures painful, swollen, smarting, nervous feet, and instantly takes the sting out of corns and bunions. **It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age.** Allen's Foot-Ease makes tight-fitting or new shoes feel easy. It is a certain cure for ingrowing nails, sweating, callous and hot, tired, aching feet. We have over 30,000 testimonials. **TRY IT TO-DAY.** Sold by all Druggists and Shoe Stores, 25c. **Do not accept any substitute.** Sent by mail for 25c. in stamps.

FREE TRIAL PACKAGE sent by mail.

MOTHER GRAY'S SWEET POWDERS, the best medicine for Feverish, Sickly Children. Sold by Druggists everywhere. Trial Package FREE. Address,

ALLEN S. OLMSTED, Le Roy, N. Y.

"In a pinch, use Allen's Foot-Ease."

[Mention this paper.]

LADIES: WE ASK YOUR HELP FOR WHICH WE WILL GIVE YOU ABSOLUTELY FREE, CLOTH FOR FULL SUIT OR DRESS.

If you will induce your husband, brother, son, sweetheart, or friend to write us for **Free Samples** of cloth, latest **Fashion Plates,** measurement blanks, etc. we will present you, absolutely **FREE,** with sufficient cloth of **all-wool, stylish material** also pattern to cut from, to make yourself a suit or dress, such a dress as you would have to pay **$15** to **$20** for; on receipt of order for one of our high-grade **$10 Men's Custom Suits.** Made to order from strictly **all wool cloth,** and **guaranteed perfect fit,** such a suit as other tailors charge **$20.00** for. Suit and dress goods shipped together, subject to examination and approval, before paying C. O. D. If you want to earn a dress for yourself and the thanks of a gentleman, get him to write us at once.

CHICAGO MFG. & MDSE. CO.,
250 to 256 Market St., Dept. 208, Chicago, Ill.
References: Metropolitan Trust & Savings Bank, Capital $750,000

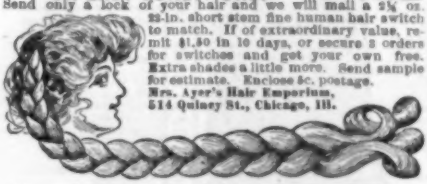
Ladies

having fancywork to sell, Embroideries, Battenberg, and Drawnwork, also to do order work, send stamped envelope.

LADIES' EXCHANGE, Dept. T, 34 Monroe Street, Chicago

This BEAUTIFUL HAIR SWITCH ON EASY CONDITIONS. FREE

Send only a lock of your hair and we will mail a 2¼ oz. 22-in. short stem fine human hair switch to match. If of extraordinary value, remit $1.50 in 10 days, or secure 2 orders for switches and get your own free. Extra shades a little more. Send sample for estimate. Enclose 5c. postage.



Mrs. Ayer's Hair Emporium,
514 Quincy St., Chicago, Ill.

35c.—Sachet Talcum Puff—35c.

is Revolutionizing the Sale of Talcum Powder

It is pure, delicately scented, and free from all adulterations, such as alum, or chalk, so often found in other Talcum powders. **You need nothing but the Puff itself.** The powder sifts through a patent, soft and fine eiderdown cushion, which prevents it from flying over dressing table or clothing. The cover is made of chamois, white kid, or silk, artistically hand-painted, making it a beautiful ornament or souvenir. Brings delight to skin after bathing or shaving. Cannot irritate the most sensitive skin. Far superior to old style tin can or box. **ONE SACHET PUFF OUTLASTS THREE BOXES OF OTHER POWDERS.** Sent postpaid on receipt of **35c.** *Agents wanted.* **The B Elve Co., Wellfleet, Mass.**

Too Fat

Don't ruin your stomach with a lot of useless drugs. Our method is perfectly safe, natural and scientific. It strengthens the heart, allows one to breathe easily and takes off Double Chin, Big Stomach, Fat Hips, etc. Send your address and 4 cts. to the Hall Chemical Co., "Box K. A.," St. Louis, Mo., for Free trial Treatment. No starving. No sickness. It reduces weight from 5 to 15 lbs. a month, and is perfectly harmless.

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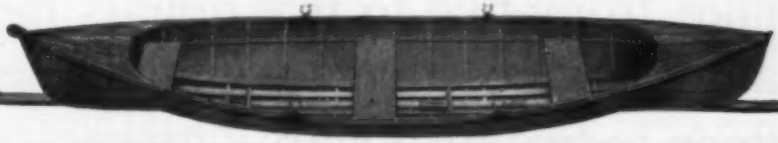

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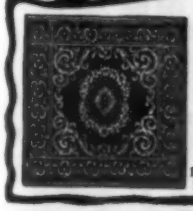

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Please send me your booklet, "1001 Stories of Success," and explain how I can qualify for the position before which I have marked X

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This Company wrote and issued during 1904 over $312,000,000 of paid-for life insurance, increasing the number of policies in force to nearly six millions, and bringing the amount of insurance in force to a sum exceeding one billion dollars.

This Company, whose agencies extend to every State in the Union, is a truly national institution, not only in size, but in the position which it occupies as the trustee for the funds of the millions in all parts of the country, thus furnishing the means of making provision for the future for themselves and their dependents.

That this trust is well placed is shown by the fact that the Company has accumulated assets of over $88,000,000, and a surplus exceeding $13,000,000, the liabilities being $75,000,000. The exhibit this year gives a very plain and convincing statement of the character of these assets and of the security which is afforded on its loans, on bonds and mortgages, and collateral securities.

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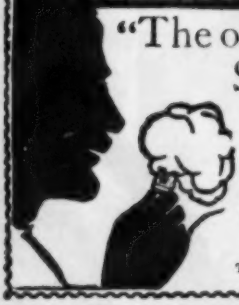

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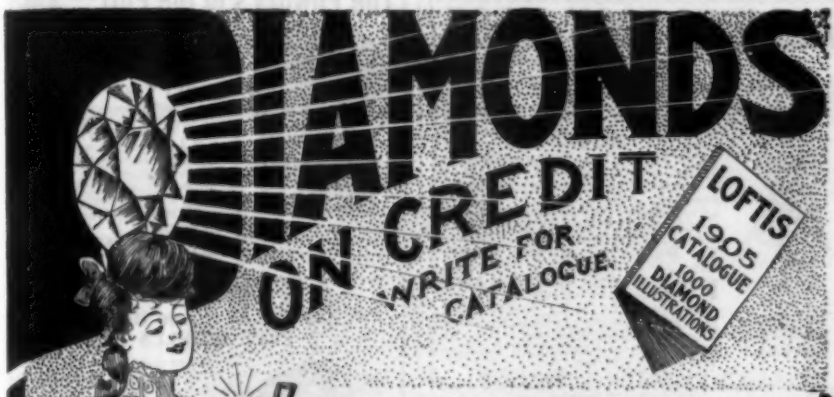

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The Editor

To You Who Write

The Editor

This little chat is for writers. If you write, or if you have an itching to write, we want to talk to you. We know some things about writing that may interest you, and we shall try to put them in such a chatty form that you will forget you are reading an advertisement until we break in solemnly and ask, "Good morning! Have you subscribed for THE EDITOR?"

Lots of authors have. Not so many years ago we entered a subscription from a man out in California. We had never seen his name in the magazines, but we had faith in him, as we have in all honest workers. One day we found a story of his in a magazine, and presently another, and another, till we came to look for them regularly. We were immensely pleased at his success, and down in one corner of our heart we were egotistically certain that our magazine had been one of its factors. We never dared voice our belief, it is true, but we cherished it for our own satisfaction. One morning, in our mail, we found a letter from him. "When I subscribed," he wrote, "I had a goodly file of my manuscripts laid away. Through your help I have disposed of the major portion." It was signed in that great scrawling hand so many editors know — "Jack London."

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3. It has placed books with publishers as an example we cite "Stringtown on the Pike," by John Uri Lloyd, which was one of the most popular stories of the day. It has secured words of approval for its services from the very best writers in America — note Jack London, etc. Through its advice thousands of stories have been placed with the best magazines.

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The Editor

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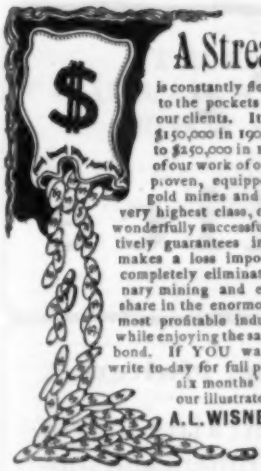

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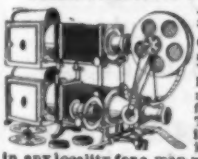

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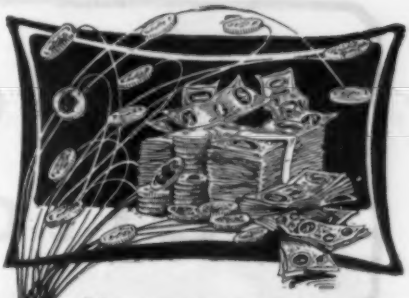

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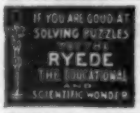

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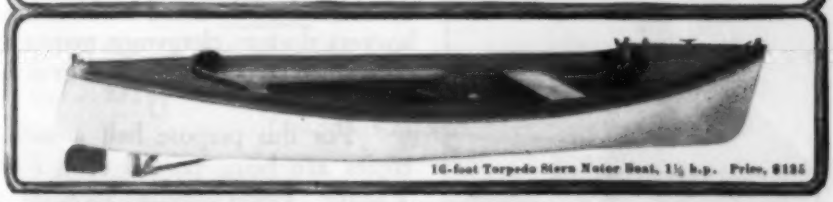

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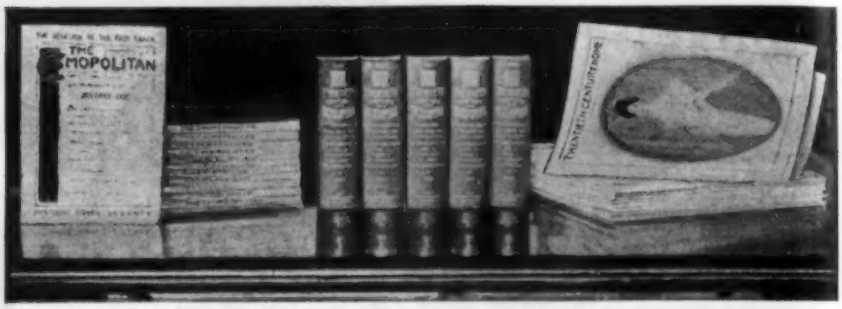

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If so, you owe it to yourself to develop it. Nearly every magazine in the country is calling for original material. We can make you a Journalist by mail. Write at once for free particulars.

Sprague Correspondence School of Journalism, 225 Majestic Building, Detroit Mich.

AUTHORS READ PAGE XI

Hit the Bull's-Eye of Success

by Edward T. Page

Aim at the advertising target — devote your time and energy to the business that will bring you the highest rewards. You will find that even the beginner in the advertising business is better paid than the man who has reached the top in almost every other line.

Where you succeed as clerk, stenographer, salesman, etc., to the extent of earning a salary of $15 a week, you should be able to earn $25 a week as an advertising man; if you are earning $25 a week in your present position, as an advertisement writer you would be worth $40 a week; and so on up the scale.

We can cite you to hundreds of instances — recorded on our employed students' lists — of men who have been able to double and treble their incomes, and in many cases become a partner in the business because of their knowledge of advertising gained in our school. It does not require a moment more time or a whit more energy to earn $5,000 a year than to earn $10 a week. It's all a matter of special training.

Ask Mr. W. H. Barnes, of Los Angeles, California, if he really works as hard, now that he is advertising manager, as he did formerly when driving a laundry wagon. Mr. A. A. Brentano, of Evansville, Ind., will tell you that he finds it far more pleasant and remunerative to be advertising manager of a newspaper than to work in a stove factory. Write to Mr. W. A. McCall, of St. Louis, Mo., and see if he doesn't assure you that his work is really less arduous as advertising manager for the Laclede Gas Company, than when employed as a newspaper solicitor. You will hear the same story everywhere from Page-Davis men — a story of interesting work, short hours and good pay, as against a former condition of monotonous routine, long hours, and comparatively small pay. You have their word for it, and you have ours. Can you ask for greater evidence?

When you enroll with us you enter our practical training school of experience and do the actual work of an advertisement writer, under the closest scrutiny of successful advertising men. You are helped to write advertisements for your firm, to work up an advertising business in your own home, or to secure a position at not less than $25 a week, if you desire it.

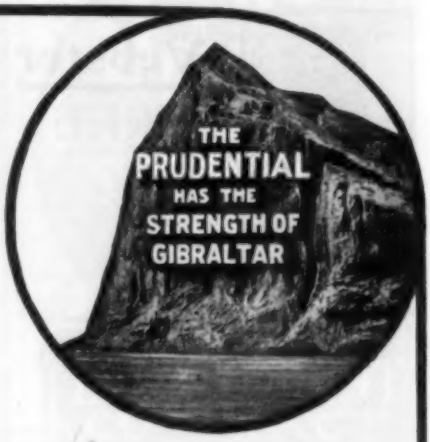
We will send you, free, upon request, full details regarding the opportunities for getting into immediate employment, and the latest list of employed graduates earning up to $100 a week, as a result of this very training we now offer you. Address your letter:

PAGE-DAVIS COMPANY

Address either office { **Dept. 525, 90 Wabash Ave., Chicago, or**
Dept. 525, 150 Nassau St., New York

SAVE

for your Own and your Family's Future.



You may be surprised to know how profitably you can invest even an average of $2.00 per week in Endowment Life Insurance in

The Prudential

Without committing myself to any action, I shall be glad to receive free particulars and rates of Endowment Policies

Amount.....

Name.....

Address.....

Occupation.....

To The
Prudential Insurance Co.
of America

JOHN F. DRYDEN, President. Dept. 93. Home Office: NEWARK, N. J.

Cash amount payable to you (if living) in 10, 15, or 20 years with Dividends (according to plan selected).

If the Insured dies before the end of the Endowment Period, the full amount of the policy is paid to the beneficiary.

We desire to correspond with you on the subject and furnish full information as to Rates, Benefits and Privileges.

SEND COUPON TO-DAY.

DISCREPANCY IN PRINT

Beautifies and Preserves the Complexion.

A Positive Relief for Prickly Heat, Chafing and Sunburn.

Mennen's face on every box; be sure that you get the original. Sold everywhere, or by mail 25 cents. **Sample free.**

Gerhard Mennen Co., Newark, N. J.

TRY MENNEN'S VIOLET TALCUM.

QUILTED MATTRESS PADS

THREE SCORE and TEN YEARS is a long life, yet about THIRTY YEARS of it is spent in bed. Then why not make your bed as comfortable as it can be made.

Quilted Mattress Pads will not only make it comfortable, but as they are spread over the mattress, they will protect it, and will keep your bed or baby's crib in a perfect Sanitary condition.

Quilted Mattress Pads wash perfectly, and are as good as new after laundering.

They are sold in all sizes by Dry Goods dealers

EXCELSIOR QUILTING CO.
15 Laight Street : : : New York

HERE IS A LIST OF GOOD POSITIONS WHICH DO YOU WANT?

Study the list. Mark the position you desire and mail the coupon to us. We will do the rest by showing you how you can in **your spare time,** without neglecting your present work, qualify yourself to enter the occupation of your choice, at a salary you could not command in years of ordinary work.

We will give you as evidence the names and addresses of thousands who have doubled, tripled and quadrupled their income as the result of marking this coupon.

We will make the way so plain to you that you will marvel at the ease with which it can be followed.

For this information, valuable as it is to you, we simply ask you to

MAIL THIS COUPON TO-DAY

International Correspondence Schools
Box 884, SCRANTON, PA.
Please explain, without further obligation on my part how I can qualify for a larger salary in the position before which I have marked X

Bookkeeper	Telephone Engineer
Stenographer	Elec. Lighting Supt.
Advertisement Writer	Mech. Engineer
Show Card Writer	Surveyor
Window Trimmer	Stationary Engineer
Mecha'l Draughtsman	Civil Engineer
Ornamental Designer	Build'g Contractor
Illustrator	Archit'l Draughtsman
Civil Service	Architect
Chemist	Structural Engineer
Textile Mill Supt.	Bridge Engineer
Electrician	Foreman Plumber
Elec. Engineer	Mining Engineer

Name _____

Street and No. _____

City _____ State _____

Made-to-Order Suits $12.50

Nothing Ready-Made

Guaranteed to fit and please you. You take no risk. You simply allow us to prove how much better our garments are than those you buy of your local tailor for twice our price.

10,000 Pairs of $5 Trousers Free

FREE

To induce you to give us your first order, we will give you a pair of **$5.00 All Wool Trousers Free** with your first suit order, providing you write today for **Free Cloth Samples** of our elegant **$12.50, $15, $18 and $20 guaranteed all-wool suits, each made strictly to order.**

We hereby agree to give you 5 days to examine and try on the garments **in your own home,** with the distinct agreement to refund the entire amount upon the return of the garments to us, if unsatisfactory. Write today for book of styles, measurement blanks and superb assortment of nobby all-wool suiting samples **free,** and see for yourself how well we can dress you and the dollars you can save by ordering a suit of us and getting a pair of **$5 all-wool trousers absolutely free**

Owen T. Moses & Co., Tailors, 228 Moses Building, Chicago

References: Any one of our 900,000 Customers or the Milwaukee Ave. State Bank, Chicago. Capital Stock, $250,000.00.

Fill out and mail this coupon today

Owen T. Moses & Co., 228 Moses Bldg., Chicago.

Gentlemen:—Please send me style book and samples of suits, including your *free trousers samples.*

I wish a suit made to my order to cost about $.....

I prefer.....color and.....weight of goods.

Name.....

Address.....

GET RICH

A hundred thousand **Fortunes** will be made this year in **Goldfield.** Are you going to sit still and watch others carry off the **Money,** or get some of it yourself? We instruct you **Free** how to obtain a liberal share. **"Safe as a Bank."** Write to-day.
FRANK H. WRAY CO., 533 Broadway, N. Y.

SLIGHTLY USED FURNITURE

from the **INSIDE INN** and ten other leading World's Fair hotels

AT ONE-FOURTH COST

Iron Beds, 50c; Dressers, $2.50; Extension Tables, $3.50; Chairs, 25c; Sheets, 10c; 9x12 Rugs, $5.00; and everything in proportion. All good as new. ***Our Big Warehouse is Overflowing*** Room must be made to handle our contracts. The greatest Bargain Clearing Sale ever held. Complete Catalogue sent FREE Dept. C. L.
LANGAN & TAYLOR, St. Louis, Mo.

There is none of the modern, cheap-and-hasty, machine-made "throw-together" in the construction of

GABLER PIANOS

To-day, as for more than a half century, they are built in the thorough-going, long-lasting fashion, by careful, time-taking HAND-WORK, guided by artistic ideals and the pride of expert craftsmanship.

Hence the "Gabler tone"—sonorous, silvery-sweet, and improving with use like that of a violin.

Hence the solid money value of a Gabler, less affected by use and time than any piano now on the market.

Write for Particulars of the

"GABLER EASY PURCHASE PLAN"

The Best Way to Get the Best Piano Built.

ERNEST GABLER & BROTHER,
404 East 107th St., New York City.

Prize Story Treat

We will mail 21 back numbers of *The Black Cat* containing 108 stories, including many that won from $100 to $1,000 each—for 56 cents.

As *The Black Cat* is devoted entirely to short stories, back numbers are as up to date as the current issue.

The Shortstory Publishing Co., Boston, Mass.

FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITY

Any reader of this publication can communicate with this advertiser, a prominent business man who knows of an investment which he believes will pay at least 16 per cent. the first year, 24 per cent. the second year, 80 per cent. the third year, and 100 per cent. or more thereafter, and which will bear the closest investigation. He has himself invested in this company. The shares are not offered for public subscription, but a limited number can be bought if early action is taken. His certificates are guaranteed by the President of the concern, who is rated at a half million. And it might be that this same arrangement could be made with other investors. The advertiser wishes to withhold his identity and also that of the concern. But to anyone interested he would be glad to give full information as to the company. Then they can correspond direct with the President of the concern, who is widely known. Address E. R. G., Box 1570, New York City. And be sure that you mention that you are a reader of THE BLACK CAT.

PURE WHISKEY
At First Cost

At our distillery at Troy, Ohio, we make an average of 9,580 gallons of PURE WHISKEY a day. It is the best whiskey that can be produced in one of the most modern and best equipped distilling plants in the world by a company with a capital of $500,000.00 paid in full and an experience of 39 years in the distilling business.

This PURE HAYNER WHISKEY goes direct to you from our distillery. It doesn't pass through the hands of any dealer or middleman to adulterate. You thus save the dealers' enormous profits. You buy at the distiller's price. You get it at first cost. You cannot buy anything purer, better or more satisfactory no matter how much you pay.

HAYNER WHISKEY is prescribed by physicians and used in hospitals because of its goodness and purity. Our half a million satisfied customers give further testimony of its merits.

Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian Embassy, Washington, D. C.
"I have found HAYNER WHISKEY excellent as well for a tonic as for a table drink."
***L. Von Hengelmuller*, Austro-Hungarian Ambassador.**

HAYNER WHISKEY

4 FULL QUARTS $3.20 EXPRESS PREPAID

OUR OFFER We will send you in a plain **sealed** case, with no marks to show contents, FOUR FULL QUART BOTTLES OF HAYNER PRIVATE STOCK RYE FOR $3.20, and we will pay the express charges. Take it home and sample it, have your doctor test it—every bottle if you wish. Then if you don't find it just as we say and perfectly satisfactory ship it back to us AT OUR EXPENSE and your $3.20 will be promptly refunded. How could any offer be fairer? YOU don't risk a cent.

Orders for Ariz., Cal., Col., Idaho, Mont., Nev., N. Mex., Ore., Utah, Wash., or Wyo., must be on the basis of **4 Quarts** for **$4.00** by **Express Prepaid** or **20 Quarts** for **$15.20**, by **Freight Prepaid.**

THE HAYNER DISTILLING COMPANY

Dayton, O. St. Louis, Mo. St. Paul, Minn. Atlanta, Ga.

DISTILLERY, TROY, O. ESTABLISHED, 1866.

APR 19 1905

Real Parisian Life

Talesmore Fascinating and Exciting than the Arabian Nights or French Court Memoirs.

I have secured the sets of Paul de Kock from the F. J. Quinby Co., which were awarded the Gold Medal at St. Louis. Rather than rebind them—they are slightly rubbed through handling—I will dispose of them at *half price* as long as they last, and upon small monthly payments, and send them on one week's approval, carriage free.

Paul de Kock

The Merriest French Humorist

has written sparkling, witty, amusing, riveting novels—antidotes for melancholy. The stories race merrily along, nothing didactic or dull; as original as Boccaccio, as mirthful as Gil Blas, as fascinating as the Oriental Tales and as captivating as the DIARIES OF THE FRENCH MAIDS. These stories are unexpurgated and translated with fidelity into English. While they have been criticized as spicy and sensational, the best authorities have adjudged them classics, ranking with Smollett, Sterne, The Arabian Nights and Balzac.

Short Fascinating Stories

"Paul de Kock is a tonic in books instead of bottles."—*Max O'Rell.* "His charming characters seem to be under the influence of champagne."—*Charles Lever.* "He has kept France laughing for years—the Smollett of France."—*Boston Herald.* We hate the superlative, but believe this the best and richest book value ever offered. The set contains the most delicate and artistic French illustrations obtainable, made specially for this work by Glackens, Sloan, Wenzell, Sterner and many other famous artists.

Illustrated Booklet Free

Giving you full particulars and sample pages of this rare set of books; but you must write today, stating whether you are interested in cloth or half morocco three-quarter or full binding.

C. T. BRAINARD, 425-427 Fifth Ave., New York. Please send me booklet and particulars regarding Paul de Kock's works. I am interested in the

(Signing this incurs no obligation)

..... binding.

Name .....

Address .....

B. C. May

BOSTON & MAINE R. R.

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DESCRIPTIVE OF

New England Scenery and Summer Resorts

Fully illustrated and containing valuable maps

Fishing and Hunting **All Along Shore**
Lakes and Streams
Among the Mountains
The Valley of the Connecticut and Northern Vermont
Southeast New Hampshire
Hoosac Country and Deerfield Valley
Southwest New Hampshire
Merrimack Valley **Lake Sunapee**
Central Massachusetts
Lake Memphremagog and About There
The Monadnock Region
Excursion and Summer Hotel Book—Free

Any one of the above Publications sent on receipt of Two Cents in Stamps

A COLORED BIRD'S-EYE VIEW
From Mt. Washington, or a Colored Bird's-Eye View of Lake Winnepesaukee

Either of the above will be sent on receipt of SIX CENTS in STAMPS

PORTFOLIOS

A Series of Beautiful Half-Tone Reproductions of Photographs taken expressly for these works, illustrating New England Scenery: have been published under the following titles:

New England Lakes
Rivers of New England
Mountains of New England
Seashore of New England
Picturesque New England
(Historic-Miscellaneous)
The Charles River to the Hudson

Size of Illustrations, 4 x 6 inches

Will be mailed upon receipt of SIX CENTS for each Book

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PASSENGER DEPARTMENT
BOSTON & MAINE R. R.
Boston, Mass.

D. J. FLANDERS, *General Passenger and Ticket Agent.*

MORE THAN 400 SHAVES

WITHOUT STROPPING

This is a low average of the number of shaves that can be secured with a

Gillette Safety Razor

With each razor there are twelve double edged blades of wafer steel, tempered so hard, by our secret process, they must be ground with Diamond Dust, and so perfectly sharpened, every one will give from ten to forty delightful, velvety shaves **without stropping.** When they are dull we will send you one new blade for every two returned to us. Repeated exchanging in this way gives you an equivalent of twenty-two blades with every outfit. After they are all used, new ones can be purchased at so low a price that your shaving will cost you but a **fraction of a cent a shave.**

Gillette Sales Co., New York. Gentlemen—I bought one of your razors last September and I would not sell it for many times its value if I could not get another. In fact it is the only razor. **I have used one blade sixty-two times and am still using it.** We have a chain of 26 banks and several of our boys have bought the razor from seeing mine.

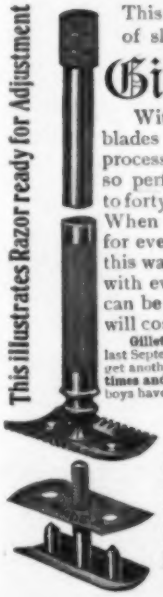
Respectfully, L. GREENWOOD,
Auditor Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., Sioux City, Iowa.

Ask your dealer for the **Gillette Safety Razor;** he can procure it for you. Write for our interesting booklet which explains our thirty days free trial offer. Most dealers make this offer; if yours don't, we will.

The Gillette Sales Company, 1158 Times Building, Times Sq., New York.

References: Any one of our 168,141 satisfied users to Jan. 1, 1905, our first year in the market.

This illustrates Razor ready for Adjustment



TUG OF WAR

It's easy to win back a strong heart, stomach and nerves and easy to "best" the Coffee habit when you quit it entirely and use well-made

POSTUM

There's a reason.

"QUALITY REMEMBERED long after price is forgotten"

THE ONLY COCOA & CHOCOLATE OF WHICH THIS CAN TRULY BE SAID IS

Huyler's

SOLD BY GROCERS & DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE

Hydrozone

CURES

ECZEMA and kindred skin diseases. Indorsed by the medical profession and sold by leading druggists. **HYDROZONE,** although harmless, is the most powerful germicide. Not genuine without my signature:

Charles Marchand

57 Prince Street, New York.

Chemist and Graduate of the "Ecole Centrale des Arts et Manufactures de Paris, France."

Preparations with similar names are concoctions of water, containing oil of vitriol, sulphurous acid and inert impurities.

A FREE TRIAL BOTTLE

of **HYDROZONE,** sufficient to demonstrate its healing properties, will be sent on receipt of attached coupon. (Name your druggist.) Requests without coupon ignored. Only one free bottle to a family.

Write legibly. Coupon good only until June 5, '05.

Name.....

Address.....

19 City.....State.....

Druggist

"Free from the care which wearies and annoys,
Where every hour brings its several joys."

"AMERICA'S SUMMER RESORTS."

This is one of the most complete publications of its kind, and will assist those who are wondering where they will go to spend their vacation this summer.

It contains a valuable map, in addition to much interesting information regarding resorts on or reached by the

NEW YORK CENTRAL LINES

A copy will be sent free upon receipt of a two-cent stamp, by George H. Daniels, General Passenger Agent, New York Central & Hudson River Railroad, Grand Central Station, New York.

JUST INSIST

if it becomes necessary. Be patient as the crime of substitution will allow—but *INSIST* on having

Hand Sapolio

the finest article of a high-bred, intelligent toilet.

If the dealer can face you with a substitute remember that you must face substitute-results for that soft-textured skin, the fresh glow of health and sense of life which *HAND SAPOLIO* gives. So turn down something on which he makes an extra penny or must "work off." Do it gently—just as *HAND SAPOLIO* removes dead cuticle! Some time he will see that a delighted customer is more desirable than an extra penny—

SO INSIST

BOSTON & MAINE R. R.

Summer Publications

DESCRIPTIVE OF

New England Scenery and Summer Resorts

Fully illustrated and containing valuable maps

Fishing and Hunting **All Along Shore**
Lakes and Streams
Among the Mountains
The Valley of the Connecticut and Northern Vermont
Southeast New Hampshire
Hoosac Country and Deerfield Valley
Southwest New Hampshire
Merrimack Valley **Lake Sunapee**
Central Massachusetts
Lake Memphremagog and About There
The Monadnock Region
Excursion and Summer Hotel Book—Free

Any one of the above Publications sent on receipt of Two Cents in Stamps

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From Mt. Washington, or a Colored Bird's-Eye View of Lake Winnepesaukee

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A Series of Beautiful Half-Tone Reproductions of Photographs taken expressly for these works, illustrating New England Scenery: have been published under the following titles:

New England Lakes
Rivers of New England
Mountains of New England
Seashore of New England
Picturesque New England
(Historic-Miscellaneous)
The Charles River to the Hudson

Size of Illustrations, 4 x 6 inches

Will be mailed upon receipt of SIX CENTS for each Book

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D. J. FLANDERS, *General Passenger and Ticket Agent.*

WILL BUY YOUR STORIES.

You can learn to write in a few months' time the kind of stories editors want. Your critic will be an editor of many years' experience. This is the best paying home work for women in the world; but you cannot succeed quickly without practical criticism from an experienced writer and editor. Those who write under our criticism do not have their manuscripts returned. Drop us a postal and we will tell you why.

Address, Department Short-Story Writing, Desk 25.

PAGE-DAVIS COMPANY
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STORIES SOLD MSS. REVISED

STORY-WRITING AND JOURNALISM taught by mail; short stories and book MSS. criticised and revised; also, sold and syndicated ON COMMISSION. Send for free booklet, "WRITING FOR PROFIT"; tells how. Founded, 1895. Thornton West, Editor-in-Chief.

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68 The Baldwin, Indianapolis, Ind.

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is frequently paid by magazines for original short stories and well written articles. No field is so profitable as Journalism. None easier to enter. We positively teach Journalism by mail. Write us at once for free particulars. Sprague Corres. School of Journalism, 222 Majestic Building, Detroit, Mich.

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Its scope and character are indicated by the following titles of articles that have appeared in recent issues; all profusely illustrated:

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The Americanization of Paris	*Alexander Hume Ford*
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Some Animal Models	*Julia D. Cowles*
Where Every Prospect Pleases	*Kirk Munroe*
New England Witchcraft	*M. Imlay Taylor*
Time Defying Temples	*Allen Day*
New York From An Air Ship	*Bertha Smith*
A King on American Soil	*T. D. MacGregor*
New Zealand	*T. E. Donne*
The Limited Express—Poem	*Nixon Waterman*
Tent-life	*Sir Edwin Arnold*
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SINGLE COPIES 10 *CENTS, or* $1.00 *A YEAR.*
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GEORGE H. DANIELS, Publisher,
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$25.00

If You Earn Less

I can DOUBLE your Salary or Income by teaching you how to write catchy, intelligent advertising.

My System of Instruction by Mail is the only one in existence that has the hearty endorsement of the great experts and publishers, and I am anxious to send my prospectus, together with the most remarkable facsimile proof ever given in the history of correspondence instruction, if you are interested. I will show you how to earn from $25 to $100 per week.

Geo. H. Powell, 1522 Temple Court, N.Y.

Per Week

LEARN TO WRITE ADVERTISEMENTS

Big money in the business

THE opportunities for realizing your ambition are greater in the advertising business than in any other line on earth. Salaries range from $25 to $100 a week. We will send you our beautiful prospectus free which tells how we will teach you this business by correspondence.

PAGE-DAVIS COMPANY

Address either office. {Suite 625, 90 Wabash Avenue, Chicago. Suite 625, 150 Nassau Street, New York.

IF YOU ARE A WRITER

We can aid you to find a market for anything you write.

MSS. SUCCESSFULLY PLACED,

Criticised, Revised, Typewritten.

References: Edwin Markham, Margaret E. Sangster, and others. Established 1890. Send for leaflet E.

UNITED LITERARY PRESS 127 5th AVE. NEW YORK.

Authors Agency. Fourteenth Year. Candid, suggestive **Criticism,** Literary and technical **Revision,** practical **Advice, Disposal, Instruction.** Special attention to MSS. for **Prize Contests.** References: Hamlin Butterworth, Mrs. Burton Harrison, Thos. Nelson Page, Mary E. Wilkins, and others.

Send stamp for New Booklet to **WM. A. DRESSER, R. 10, 400 Broadway, Cambridge, Mass.**

Mention The Black Cat.

Authors—Avoid the Editor's "Blue Pencil."

Mail us your MSS. to be revised and typewritten before sending to publisher. You'll never regret it. Saves time. For Particulars write to **Filson's, 1616 Columbia Ave., Philadelphia, Pa.**

Song Poems Wanted

ONE SUCCESS MEANS A FORTUNE. We write the music and submit the songs to the New York Music Publishers. **MILLER MUSIC COMPANY, St. James Building, New York.**

I HAVE MADE MONEY WRITING short stories and one novel, but I have made more writing newspaper and magazine articles, reviewing books, and compiling handbooks, school-books, and advertising booklets. I tell part of my experience in my new book, **"Story-writing and Journalism"** (regular price, 75c; discount price, 50c; postage prepaid if you include 10c for 6 months' subscription to my new magazine, **"The Touchstone,"** satirical review of current books, etc.) I tell all about it in my complete Training Course in writing for publication. **Sherwin Cody, 644 Opera House, Chicago**

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The original school. Recognized by Courts and educators. Hundreds of students in successful practice. *We tell you how FREE.* Isn't it worth knowing? Write today for special offer.

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MUSIC LESSONS AT YOUR HOME Piano, Organ, Banjo, Guitar, Cornet, Violin or Mandolin, Harmony, and Composition. Expense small. We teach by mail only and guarantee success. Money refunded if not perfectly satisfied. Hundreds write: "Wish I had known of your school before." For booklet, testimonials and full information, address U. S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC, Box 53 D, 19 Union Square, New York, N. Y.

WRITERS WE WANT NOVELS, STORIES, POEMS, JOKES, Etc., FOR PUBLICATION. Home work, best prices, immediate payment. Free entry to short-story competitions to members of our staff.

ARTISTS If you can illustrate stories or furnish cover designs, etc., we have work for you. Write a letter. **Burell Syndicate, Gramercy Bldg., N. Y. C.**

1001 Places to Sell Mss. Not a catalogue list, but a compilation of editorial statements of needs. A revised, enlarged and up-to-date edition of the standard book, "500 Places to Sell MSS. Over 1,000 markets for manuscripts, classified under following heads, with general article of advice preceding each division, and with exhaustive statements of requirements after individual markets: Advertising, Agricultural, Authors, Horticultural, Book Publishers, Biography, Genealogy, Camera, Clairvoyancy, Palmistry, Class and Technical, English Magazines, Household, Humorous, Jewish, Juvenile, Literary Monthlies, Literary Weeklies, Matrimonial, Newspapers, Occultism and Theosophy, Pets, Printers, Play Publishers, Publications That Use Serials, Religious, Sporting, Syndicates, Undertaking, Embalming, etc. Price $1.00 Postpaid.

Editor Publishing Company, 150 Nassau St., New York City

Booth Tarkington Earns $20,000 a Year

If you have a fair education and the honest determination to work for fame and the kind of success that brought LEW WALLACE *a fortune of $600,000,* and that enables MRS. HUMPHRY WARD *to earn $30,000,* MRS. ALICE HEGAN RICE *$15,000,* and BOOTH TARKINGTON *$20,000 a year,* write us and we will show you the way.

THE NATIONAL PRESS ASSOCIATION
99 THE BALDWIN, – INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Practical Life Insurance

Combining { **SAVING** / **INVESTMENT** / **PROTECTION** } **is Found in the**

FIVE YEAR DIVIDEND POLICY

Issued by

The Prudential

The Premium is Low.

No Restriction as to Residence, Travel, or Occupation.

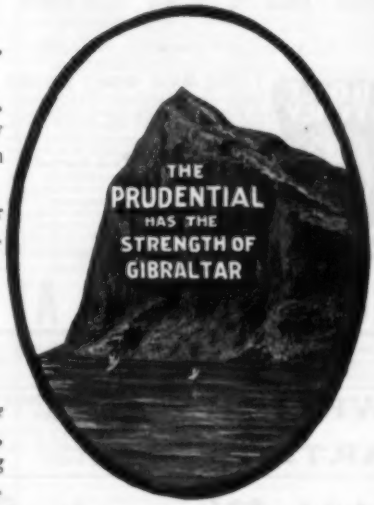
Policy is non-forfeitable after the first year, that is, if Premium is not paid the Policy is kept in force for a time specified in the Contract.

Liberal Loans are made on the Policy after three years (two years on endowments).

Liberal Non-forfeitable Provisions:

Automatically Extended Insurance,
Paid-Up Insurance,
Cash Surrender Values,
All guaranteed in the Policy.

Policy provides for a *Life Income* to Beneficiary (if an endowment, to the Insured while living and Beneficiary afterwards).



Send in this Coupon

Without committing myself to any action, I shall be glad to receive free, specimen of Five Year Dividend Whole Life Policy.

For $ ....

Name..... ..... Age.. ...

Address ....

Occupation .... Dept. 93.

If a Specimen Endowment or Limited Payment Policy is desired, specify instead of "Whole Life."

Cash Dividends are apportioned at the end of each Five Year Period and may be taken in Cash, used to reduce Premium, or to increase Insurance.

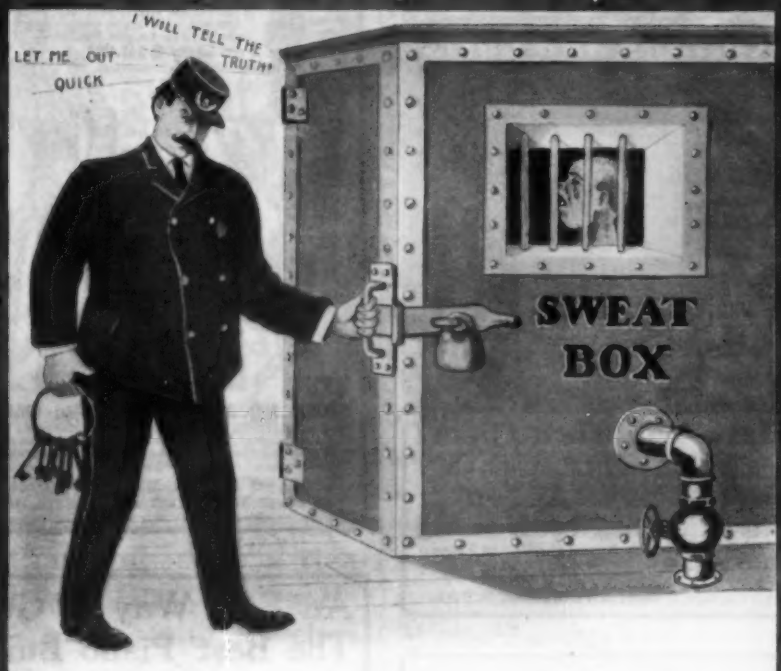
The PRUDENTIAL

Insurance Company of America

Incorporated as a Stock Company by the State of New Jersey

Home Office, Newark, N. J.

JOHN F. DRYDEN, Pres.



Truth will Come Out
Under Pressure

Some (many) men and women lie to themselves—"Coffee doesn't hurt me"—smother over the daily wound, charge the aches and ails and growing disease to this or that but stick to the coffee.

Old Dame Nature strikes back a little harder each week. She is patient under the daily attacks of coffee, but she will keep hitting harder and harder until nervous prostration or worse appears.

The **truth will come out** when you finally conclude to test it and leave off coffee 10 days and use

POSTUM

"There's a Reason."

REVERSIBLE

Linene

Collars and Cuffs

Have You Worn Them?

Not "celluloid"—not "paper collars"—but made of fine cloth, exactly resemble fashionable linen goods and cost of dealers, for box of ten, 25 cents (2½ cents each).

No Washing or Ironing

When soiled discard. **By mail 10 collars or 5 prs. cuffs for 30 cents.** Sample collar or pair cuffs for 6 cents in U. S. stamps. Give size and style.

REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. O, Boston.

"In all the land, range up, range down,
Is there ever a place so pleasant and sweet?"

THE 1000 ISLANDS.

There may be somewhere on the earth a more delightful region than that of the Thousand Islands, but if there is, it has not been discovered. It is as fine as the Bay of Naples, with no danger of being buried in hot ashes. There are 2,000 picturesque Islands scattered along the twenty-five miles of one of the most beautiful rivers in the world. You can find out a great deal regarding it in No. 10 of the "Four-Track Series," "The Thousand Islands," of the St. Lawrence River issued by the

NEW YORK CENTRAL

A copy will be mailed free on receipt of a two-cent stamp, by George H. Daniels, General Passenger Agent, Grand Central Station, New York.

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Before putting on our Suit

There is no need to for we will dress you **complete in Latest Style For Only $10.00**

We are custom tailors, making to order from all wool cloths, Men's suits for **$10.00.** Every suit is cut and made to each customer's special measurements by experienced tailors and finishers.

You would not like to wear a new suit with an old hat, shoes, etc. It does not look right.

We give away FREE of all charge, a new hat, new shirt, new shoes, socks, suspenders, collars, cuffs, etc.

All needed to dress you in style from head to toe for only $10.00

After

SEND NO MONEY. Pay Us Nothing on garments till sent and free articles are delivered to you. If not satisfactory, you may return all at our expense.

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Van Buren and Market Sts., Chicago, Illinois

References: Metropolitan Trust & Sav. Bk., Capital $75,000.00

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Our Credit Offer We trust all honest people. We trust employer and employee. We trust you. We will open a confidential account with you. One-fifth the price you pay on delivery—you retain the article and then send the balance direct to us in eight equal monthly installments. These small monthly payments you will never miss from your income. Remember, that a Diamond is better than a savings bank. Diamonds are predicted to increase 20 per cent during the present year.

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Guarantee We give a written guarantee of quality and value with each Diamond we sell. This guarantee is signed by a member of our firm. We refer you to your local bank. They will refer to their commercial agency records, and tell you that our responsibility, promptness and reliability are unquestioned in the business world. We are the largest retailers of Diamonds, High Grade Watches and Jewelry in America. Finest goods—lowest prices—easiest terms. Every sale is a matter of confidence and personal honor between our customers and ourselves.

Write To-day to us for our Catalog and Souvenir Diamond Booklet and you will obtain every advantage. Write To-day.

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28-10

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Sub-scribe To-day

has just sent out its monthly dividend checks to its **538 Shareholders** in payment of regular dividend 28 and extra dividend 10, being at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum. **Write for prospectus and illustrated brochure.**

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when the hot days come and you get the vacation fever be sure to take a

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Originated and brought to this country by us. Made from specially selected bamboo, so closely woven by hand to a stout bamboo framework that it cannot sag or grow baggy. Made in two sizes: **20 in. long, 11 3-4 wide, 5 deep, weight 24 oz.; 22 1-2 in. long, 14 wide, 5 1-2 deep, weight 30 oz.**

If you cannot obtain them at your dealer's send us his name and we will send you circular and full information of how to get them.

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If it's Mackintosh's Toffee, it is the delicious old English candy that is taking America by storm. If it isn't Mackintosh's, you don't want it unless you want an imitation.

Mackintosh's Toffee **The Original Old English Candy**

sold in 10c cartons, my name and face on every package.

No, not a chewing candy. You break off a small bit and let it dissolve in the mouth.

If your dealer smiles and says he hasn't got Mackintosh's, but has an imitation, if you're genuine you will of course try another dealer. I am always ready to send my Toffee by mail. Send ten cents for the first size package or $1.60 for a large four-pound family tin, but try your dealer first. **John Mackintosh, Dept. 24, 78 Hudson St., N. Y.**

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Successful Manufacturing Enterprise Established Seven Years. Big Business on Moderate Capital—No Watered Stock. Sales have increased each year. A Staple Specialty, World-Wide Market, Small Making and Selling Expense, Low Price—Quick Sales. Capital Stock not to be increased, Sales Are Increasing, Value of Shares Must Increase.

Invest your spare dollars where you know they will be safely and wisely administered, and yield you better returns than you can get in the bank.

We have a few unsold shares of Treasury Stock, reserved until our increasing business demanded more operating capital. We have just erected a new and larger plant—the most modern equipped typewriter factory in the world, and have some further improvements to make. Rather than pay out our profits in interest to the banks, we prefer to sell our remaining portion of Treasury Stock and distribute the profits among hundreds of small investors, who, financially interested, will become walking and talking advertisements for the Chicago Typewriter.

Manufacturing is a safe and sound investment—yielding the surest and steadiest returns. You know the unlimited field for typewriters. Our Company is conservatively managed—no fancy salaries—no official drones—every employe a worker. For our responsibility see Dun's or Bradstreet's.

Not a share of our Treasury Stock has ever been sold at less than par. This is a solid business enterprise. We shall not increase the capitalization and owing to our growing business and high rate of dividends each share of stock will soon be worth double or treble its present par value. Our stock is fully paid and non-assessable.

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I suffered for years with a humiliating growth of hair on my face, and tried many remedies without success; but I ultimately discovered the **True Secret** for the permanent removal of hair, and for more than seven years have been applying my treatment to others, thereby rendering happiness to, and gaining thanks of, thousands of ladies.

I assert and **Will Prove to You,** that my treatment will destroy the follicle and otherwise **Permanently Remove the Hair Forever.** No trace is left on the skin after using, and the treatment can be applied privately by yourself in your own chamber.

IF YOU ARE TROUBLED, WRITE TO ME

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If you can give us a motto or phrase better than "Here's a Sticker," we will pay you $25.00 in cash by return of mail. If we do not consider your idea as good, but good enough to use, we will pay you $5.00 for it. The only requirement is that you send us the name and address of your druggist or hardware dealer and 25c (silver or stamps) for one package of

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MORE THAN 400 SHAVES WITHOUT STROPPING

is a low average of the number of shaves that can be secured with a

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The outfit consists of one triple silver plated holder and twelve double-edged wafer blades, in a morroco velvet lined case. These wonderful blades are tempered so hard by our secret process that they must be ground with Diamond Dust, and so perfectly sharpened that every one will give from ten to fifty delightful, velvety shaves **without stropping.** Thousands of unsolicited letters testify to this. Here is one of them.

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Respectfully,
L. GREENWOOD, Auditor Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., Sioux City, Iowa.

The Gillette Blade

This illustrates razor ready for adjustment.

Triple Silver Plated

½ Actual Size

The Ordinary Razor Blade

The circular illustrations shown here are exact reproductions of photographs made under the microscope by Prof. W. J. G. Land of the University of Chicago. Same lens and conditions used on both razor blades.

Note the perfectly true edge of the **Gillette Blade.** The other illustration was not from a bad razor but from **the best obtainable in daily use.**

The edges of these two razor blades have not been retouched in any way, but are exactly as they appear under the microscope at 1200 diameters. The ordinary razor was one that was stropped in the most scientific manner while the **Gillette** was selected at random from a dozen blades.

Ask your dealer for the **Gillette Safety Razor;** he can procure it for you. Write for our interesting booklet which explains our thirty days free trial offer. Most dealers make this offer; if yours don't, we will.

The University of Chicago
Dept. of Botany.
Painter-Tobey-Jones Co., April 16, 1905.
Mr. Geo. J. Kendall, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:—I am sending proofs of edges of a high grade ordinary shaving razor and the **Gillette Blade** at a magnification of 1200 diameters (in popular language 1,440,000 times.) Negatives were made from Spencer objective 4mm. focal length and Numerical Aperture 0.85; and Zeiss Ocular 8.

You will note that the numerical aperture is a high one, thus making the test a severe one for both blades. Advise me of receipt of proofs. Trusting they will serve your purpose, I am, yours very truly,

Prof. W. J. G. LAND.

This is exact size of Gillette Blade.

The Gillette Sales Company,

1158 Times Building. Times Square, New York.

References: Any one of our 168,141 satisfied users to January 1, 1905, our first year in the market.

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MALT as a marvelously beneficial stimulant and tonic, man had known for centuries, but only yesterday did he learn to combine it to the greatest advantage with his food.

COOK'S MALTO-RICE IS A PERFECT BLENDING OF MALT AND RICE.

Thoroughly cooked, ready to serve from package to dish.

EVERY PACKAGE OF MALTO-RICE IS STERILIZED.

It's pure, free from "lumps," germs, and will keep.

Ask your grocer to-day for a package of

COOK'S MALTO-RICE

15 Cents

The Preserver and Beautifier of the Complexion.

A Positive Relief for Prickly Heat, Chafing and Sunburn.

MENNEN'S face on every box; be sure that you get the original. Sold everywhere, or by mail 25 cents. **Sample free.**

Gerhard Mennen Co., Newark, N. J.

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in every town to ride and sell our bicycles. Good pay. Finest guaranteed **1906 MODELS**, with Puncture-Proof tires, Coaster-Brakes **$10 to $24**
1905 & 1904 Models of Best Makes..... **$7 to $12**
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We *SHIP ON APPROVAL* and **TEN DAYS TRIAL** to anyone *without a cent deposit.* Write at once for **Special Offer** on sample bicycle.

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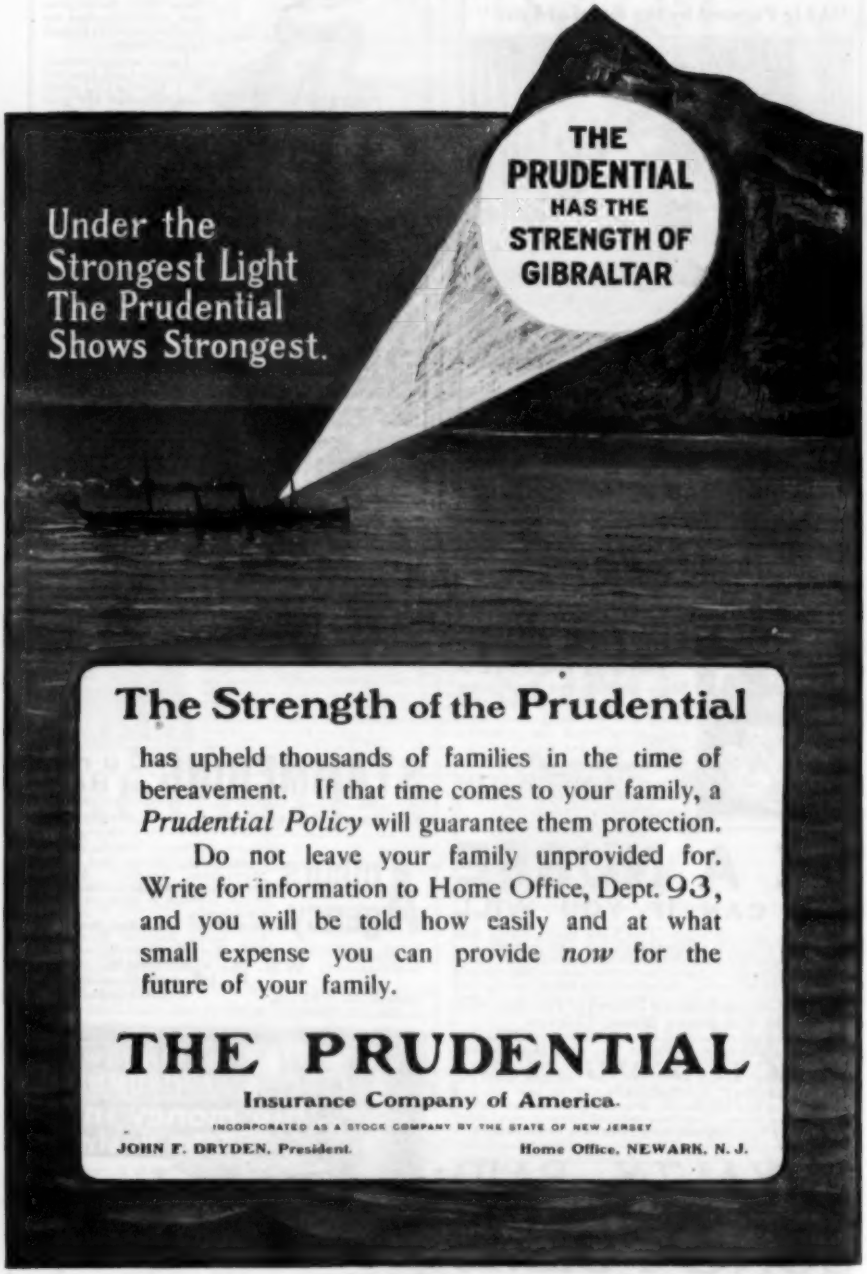

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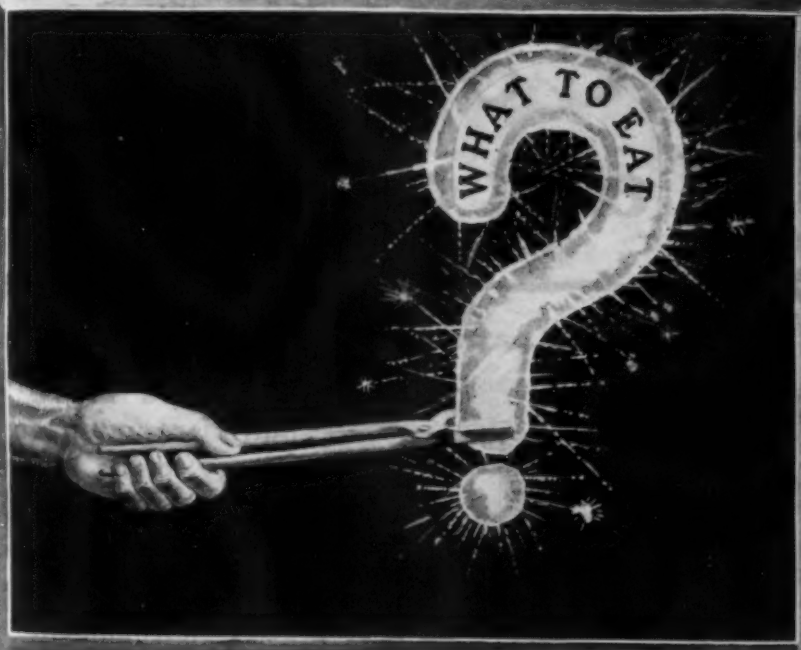

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Our Guarantee. With each Diamond we give a written Guarantee of Quality and Value. Each Diamond that we ever sold is good for full value in exchange for other goods or a larger Diamond.

Write To-day to Us for our Catalog and Souvenir Diamond Booklet, containing all advantages of the Loftis Diamond Credit System in detail. Lowest quotations, easiest terms, finest goods.

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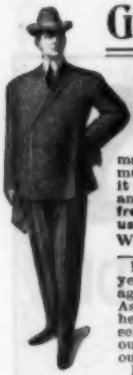

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Cut this notice out and mail to us and if we have no agent in your town we will send you **FREE**, by return mail, postpaid, **a big assortment of cloth samples**, fashion figures, cloth tape measure, order blanks, etc., and we will name you prices on men's fine made to measure clothing that will be so much lower than you ever heard of that it will surprise you; terms, conditions and privileges that will astonish you; **a free trial offer on a suit for your own use** that will make you wonder.

WE WANT A GOOD AGENT IN YOUR TOWN.

He can make $1,200.00 to $1,800.00 per year. If you write us before we get an agent there **you will get a wonderful offer.** As soon as we get an agent in your town he will get a profit on every dollar we sell in his territory. We then turn all our business over to him. That's why our agents make so much money.

If you want a suit for yourself, answer quick before we get an agent there, and you will then get all our great inducements, or if you would like to be our agent tell us all about yourself. Address,

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An attractive 150-page pamphlet, full of the temptation of river, field and mountain, is published by the Central Vermont Railway, under the style, "Summer Homes of Vermont, Islands and Shores of Lake Champlain, Adirondacks, and Canada." It is filled with excellent pictures of Summer-time scenes in places far from the press of city life. There are complete descriptions of the various resorts, convenient time-tables and lists of special excursion rates, of which the wise may take advantage. Those who have not yet settled the great question as to where the vacation shall be spent can hardly do better than consult this pamphlet, which may be obtained by sending six cents in stamps to J. E. Bentley, General Passenger Agent, Central Vermont Railway, St. Albans, Vt.

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Splendid opportunities for men of character to act as representatives. Write to Gage E. Tarbell, 2d Vice-President.

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Under Oath

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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I, T. E. Dyer, President The Shortstory Publishing Company, publishers of The Black Cat, hereby certify that over Thirteen Thousand Dollars was paid by The Shortstory Publishing Company for the stories comprised in the foregoing offer.

Subscribed and sworn to before me,

Leonard G. Roberts,
Notary Public.

L. S.

Boston, May 1, 1905.

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To induce you to give us your first order, we will give you a pair of **$5.00 All Wool Trousers Free** with your first suit order, providing you write today for **Free Cloth Samples** of our elegant **$12.50, $15, $18 and $20 guaranteed all-wool suits, each made strictly to order.**

We hereby agree to give you 5 days to examine and try on the garments **in your own home,** with the distinct agreement to refund the entire amount upon the return of the garments to us, if unsatisfactory. Write today for book of styles, measurement blanks and superb assortment of nobby all-wool suiting samples **free,** and see for yourself how well we can dress you and the dollars you can save by ordering a suit of us and getting a pair of **$5 all-wool trousers absolutely free**

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References: Any one of our 900,000 Customers or the Milwaukee Ave. State Bank, Chicago. Capital Stock, $250,000.00.

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Gentlemen:—Please send me style book and samples of suits, including your *free trousers samples.*

I wish a suit made to my order to cost about $.....

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Name.....

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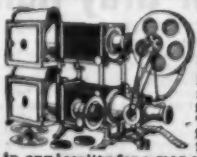

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Write for our **free booklet.** It will interest you.

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Brain Fag
Paralysis
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THE GOAT LYMPH MAGAZINE

which will be mailed to you upon request. If, at the same time, you will in your own language outline your ailment we will be glad to discuss the subject with you and advise you as to the results you may reasonably expect to obtain from the administration of the Lymph. *Ask for Magazine No. 24—3rd edition.*

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Granulated Lids, Cataracts, Pterygiums, and all forms of Eye Troubles cured by **ACTINA. No cutting. No drugging.** ACTINA is sent on trial. Write for our 100-page book. It is interesting and instructive. Free on application.
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Dept. 44 B, **929 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo.**

Darken Your Gray Hair

DUBY'S OZARK HERBS

DUBY'S OZARK HERBS restore gray, streaked or faded hair to its natural color, beauty and softness. Prevents the hair from falling out, promotes its growth, cures and prevents dandruff, and gives the hair a soft, glossy and healthy appearance. **IT WILL NOT STAIN THE SCALP,** is not sticky or dirty, contains no sugar of lead, nitrate silver, copperas, or poisons of any kind, but is composed of roots, herbs, barks and flowers. **PACKAGE MAKES ONE PINT.** It will produce the most luxuriant tresses from dry, coarse and wiry hair, and bring back the color it originally was before it turned gray. Full size package sent by mail, postpaid, for 25 cents.
OZARK HERB CO., Block 18, St. Louis, Mo.

MORE THAN 400 SHAVES WITHOUT STROPPING

is a low average of the number of shaves that can be secured with a

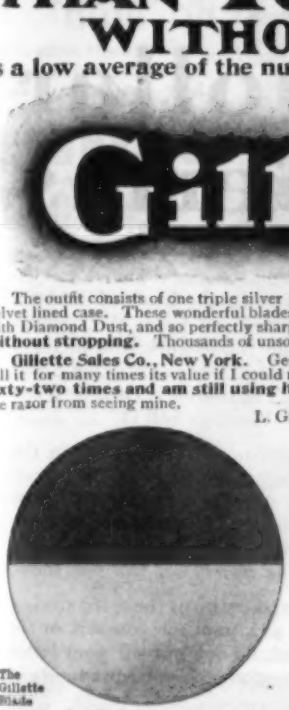
Gillette Safety Razor

The outfit consists of one triple silver plated holder and twelve double-edged wafer blades, in a morocco velvet lined case. These wonderful blades are tempered so hard by our secret process that they must be ground with Diamond Dust, and so perfectly sharpened that every one will give from ten to fifty delightful, velvety shaves **without stropping.** Thousands of unsolicited letters testify to this. Here is one of them.

Gillette Sales Co., New York. Gentlemen:—I bought one of your razors last September and I would not sell it for many times its value if I could not get another. In fact it is the only razor. **I have used one blade sixty-two times and am still using it.** We have a chain of 26 banks and several of our boys have bought the razor from seeing mine.

Respectfully,

L. Greenwood, Auditor Farmers' Loan & Trust Co., Sioux City, Iowa.

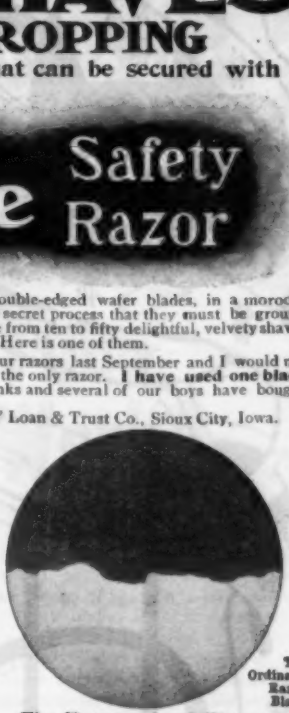


The Gillette Blade

This illustrates razor ready for adjustment.

Triple Silver Plated

½ Actual Size



The Ordinary Razor Blade

The circular illustrations shown here are exact reproductions of photographs made under the microscope by Prof. W. J. G. Land of the University of Chicago. Same lens and conditions used on both razor blades.

Note the perfectly true edge of the **Gillette Blade.** The other illustration was not from a bad razor but from **the best obtainable in daily use.**

The edges of these two razor blades have not been retouched in any way, but are exactly as they appear under the microscope at 1200 diameters. The ordinary razor was one that was stropped in the most scientific manner while the **Gillette** was selected at random from a dozen blades.

Ask your dealer for the **Gillette Safety Razor;** he can procure it for you. Write for our interesting booklet which explains our thirty days free trial offer. Most dealers make this offer; if yours don't, we will.

The University of Chicago
Dept. of Botany.

Painter-Tobey-Jones Co., April 16, 1905.
Mr. Geo. J. Kendall, Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:—I am sending proofs of edges of a high grade ordinary shaving razor and the **Gillette Blade** at a magnification of 1200 diameters (in popular language 1,440,000 times.) Negatives were made from Spencer objective 4mm. focal length and Numerical Aperture 0.85; and Zeiss Ocular 8.

You will note that the numerical aperture is a high one, thus making the test a severe one for both blades. Advise me of receipt of proofs. Trusting they will serve your purpose, I am, yours very truly,

Prof. W. J. G. Land.

This is exact size of Gillette Blade.

The Gillette Sales Company,

1158 Times Building. Times Square, New York.

References: Any one of our 168,141 satisfied users to January 1, 1905, our first year in the market.

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desiring to realize the Large Interest and Profits possible in legitimate Mining, Oil, Timber & Smelter Investments and Dividend-paying Industrial Stocks, listed and unlisted, should send for our Booklets, giving full information, mailed free.

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The prize tales embraced in the offer on page x of this issue practically and profitably answer these two perplexing questions. Write your stories as these are written, and *The Black Cat* will buy them.

To make sure of these 100 stories, either as a treat for yourself or for a friend, do not put off your letter until to-morrow, but **order to-day.**

No one who aims to write Real Stories or who loves to read Real Stories should miss next month's (August) issue, which will contain five stories dealing with Mystery, Adventure, Love, Pathos, and Humor, along *Black Cat* lines.

The Shortstory Publishing Company

We never read stories unless they are accompanied by full postage for return.

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in Summertime means freedom from **Prickly Heat, Chafing and Sunburn.**

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always brings immediate relief. Be sure that you get the original.

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Not "celluloid"—not "paper collars"—but made of fine cloth, exactly resemble fashionable linen goods and cost of dealers, for box of ten, 25 cents (2½ cents each).

No Washing or Ironing

When soiled discard. **By mail 10 collars or 5 prs. cuffs for 30 cents.** Sample collar or pair cuffs for 6 cents in U. S. stamps. Give size and style.

REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. O, Boston.

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If you want to change to a better paying occupation or if you want to advance more rapidly in your present line of work the first thing, the important thing, is to ask **HOW** by filling in and mailing to us the coupon below.

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Please explain, without further obligation on my part, how I can qualify for a larger salary in the position before which I have marked X.

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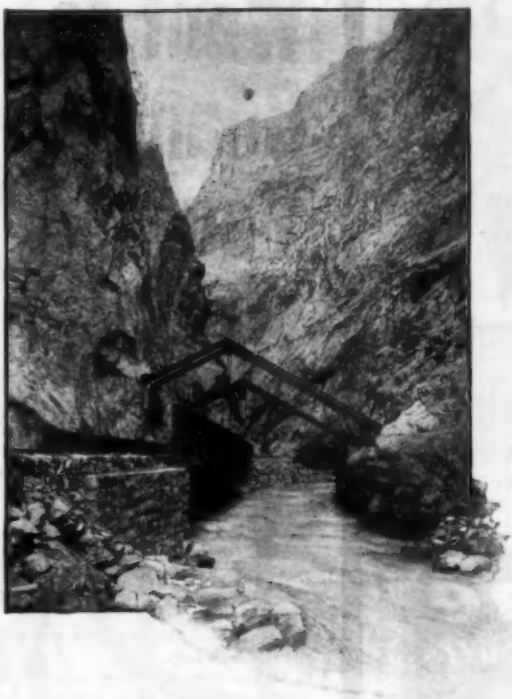

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To enable the tourist to visit the thousand and one points of interest along the line of the

DENVER & RIO GRANDE RAILROAD

This company has arranged a series of low rate excursions from Denver, Colorado Springs, Manitou and Pueblo. Very liberal limits and stop-over privileges are granted on all tickets. Write for free booklets and particulars.

S. K. HOOPER, G. P. & T. A., Denver, Colorado.

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then let us serve you. It stands to reason that we, who run one of the best equipped distilleries in the world, making an average of 9,580 gallons of Pure Whiskey a day, are in a better position to supply your wants than a dealer who has to buy his goods and probably doesn't sell one-half of 9,580 gallons in a whole year. *Just think that over.* HAYNER WHISKEY goes straight to you from our own distillery. That's why it's so good and pure. There is no dealer or middleman to adulterate it. When you buy HAYNER WHISKEY you save the enormous profits of the dealers. That's why it costs less than you pay them for much inferior goods.

HAYNER WHISKEY is recommended by doctors and used in hospitals and by half a million other satisfied customers. That's why YOU should try it. Your money back if you are not satisfied.

Russian Imperial Embassy, Washington, D. C.

"The Hayner Whiskey which has been used at the Embassy has given universal satisfaction. It is an admirable household whiskey."

Count Cassini, Russian Ambassador.

HAYNER WHISKEY

4 FULL QUARTS $3.20 EXPRESS PREPAID

OUR OFFER We will send you in a plain sealed case, with no marks to show contents, FOUR FULL QUART BOTTLES OF HAYNER WHISKEY FOR $3.20, and we will pay the express charges. Take it home and sample it, have your doctor test it—every bottle if you wish. Then if you don't find it just as we say and perfectly satisfactory ship it back to us AT OUR EXPENSE and your $3.20 will be promptly refunded. How could any offer be fairer? YOU don't risk a cent.

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Lakes and Streams
Among the Mountains
The Valley of the Connecticut and Northern Vermont
Southeast New Hampshire
Hoosac Country and Deerfield Valley
Southwest New Hampshire
Merrimack Valley **Lake Sunapee**
Central Massachusetts
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FROM SAME BOX

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"Look here, waiter, honest now, don't you dip every one of these flaked breakfast foods out of the same box?" "Well, yes, boss, we duz, all 'cept Grape-Nuts, 'cause that don't look like the others and people know 'zackly what Grape-Nuts looks like. But there's 'bout a dozen different ones named on the bill of fare and they are all thin rolled flakes so it don't make any difference which one a man calls for, we just take out the order from one box."

This talk led to an investigation. Dozens of factories sprung up about three years ago, making various kinds of breakfast foods, seeking to take the business of the original prepared breakfast food—Grape-Nuts. These concerns after a precarious existence, nearly all failed, leaving thousands of boxes of their foods in mills and warehouses. These were in several instances bought up for a song by speculators and sold out to grocers and hotels for little or nothing. The process of working off this old stock has been slow. One will see the names on menus of flaked foods that went out of business a year and a half or two years ago. In a few cases where the abandoned factories have been bought up, there is an effort to resuscitate the defunct, and by copying the style of advertising of Grape-Nuts, seek to influence people to purchase. But the public has been educated to the fact that all these thin flaked foods are simply soaked wheat or oats rolled thin and dried out and packed. They are not prepared like Grape-Nuts, in which the thorough baking and other operations which turn the starch part of the wheat and barley into sugar, occupy many hours and result in a food so digestible that small infants thrive on it, while it also contains the selected elements of Phosphate of Potash and Albumen that unite in the body to produce the soft gray substance in brain and nerve centres. There's a reason for Grape-Nuts, and there have been many imitations, a few of the article itself, but many more of the kind and character of the advertising. Imitators are always counterfeiters and their printed and written statements cannot be expected to be different than their goods.

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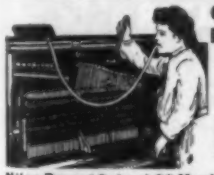

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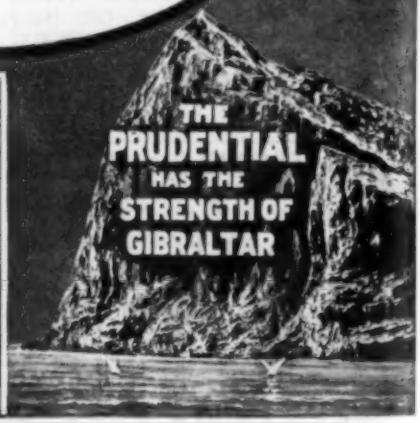

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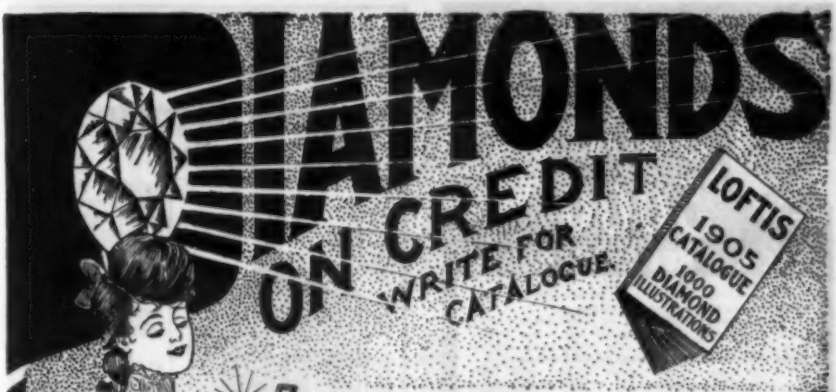

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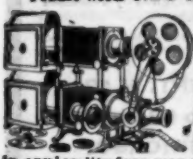

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This Treat consists of 20 back numbers of THE BLACK CAT which contain 100 of the most original, clever and fascinating stories ever put into print. In the lot, which, under oath, cost more than Thirteen Thousand Dollars, are 39 Capital Prize Tales, including "A Few Bars in the Key of G," costing $2,100; "A Tale Never Told," $1,000; "Cap'n Penfield's Pinks," $500; "The Backsliding of Miss Mindy," $1,300; "The Bigelow House, $500; "A Bridegroom's Substitute," $250, etc. Upon receipt of 65 cents (stamps will do) we will deliver, at our expense, the entire 20 numbers containing the 100 copyrighted stories. The Shortstory Publishing Co., 144 High St., Boston, Mass.

Under Oath

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, SS.

I, T. E. Dyer, President The Shortstory Publishing Company, publishers of The Black Cat, hereby certify that over Thirteen Thousand Dollars was paid by The Shortstory Publishing Company for the stories comprised in the foregoing offer.

Subscribed and sworn to before me,

L.S. *Leonard G. Roberts, Notary Public.*

Boston, May 1, 1905.

REVERSIBLE

Linene

Collars and Cuffs

Have You Worn Them?

Not "celluloid"—not "paper collars"—but made of fine cloth, exactly resemble fashionable linen goods and cost of dealers, for box of ten, 25 cents (2½ cents each).

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When soiled discard. **By mail 10 collars or 5 prs. cuffs for 30 cents.** Sample collar or pair cuffs for 6 cents in U. S. stamps. Give size and style.

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25 Cents
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This book shows you the great profit in mushroom raising. It tells you how you can make money on a very small outlay. To all interested, we will send this book free. Write before the limited edition is exhausted.

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An attractive 150-page pamphlet, full of the temptation of river, field and mountain, is published by the Central Vermont Railway, under the style, "Summer Homes of Vermont, Islands and Shores of Lake Champlain, Adirondacks, and Canada." It is filled with excellent pictures of Summer-time scenes in places far from the press of city life. There are complete descriptions of the various resorts, convenient time-tables and lists of special excursion rates, of which the wise may take advantage. Those who have not yet settled the great question as to where the vacation shall be spent can hardly do better than consult this pamphlet, which may be obtained by sending six cents in stamps to J. E. Bentley, General Passenger Agent, Central Vermont Railway, St. Albans, Vt.

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If your dealer hasn't them, we will tell you where obtainable. In exchange for the name of your hardware dealer on a postal, we will send you FREE, a handsome Souvenir of California.

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Address either office { Dept. 825, 90 Wabash Avenue, Chicago. Dept. 825, 150 Nassau Street, New York.

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And a little fortune of Silver Dollars to be divided among 830 other readers of the NATIONAL MAGAZINE

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There are no unreasonable conditions. The clipping or copied extract must not be longer than 500 words. You must hasten to send in your contribution as the contest will close and the prizes begin to be awarded on or before Sept. 1st, 1905. NATIONAL subscribers only are elegible to the competition.

840 PRIZE AWARDS. WILL YOU TAKE ONE?

Besides the first ten prizes, each a stack of silver dollars as high as the head of the prize winner, there are ten awards of $50.00 each for the ten next best stories; twenty awards of $25.00 each for the third grade; one hundred awards of $10.00 each for the fourth grade; two hundred awards of $5.00 each for the fifth grade; and five hundred awards of $1.00 each for the sixth and last grade. **U. S. Senator Allison and Admiral Geo. Dewey will make the final awards on behalf of the judges.** These names are an absolute assurance of the sincere good faith and confidence this "Heart Throb" contest merits from you. If you are not already a regular subscriber, send along the accompanying coupon with your subscription for six months and with one clipping, or a year's subscription and two clippings. Be sure to do so soon as the contest will be closed as soon as 50,000 new subscribers are obtained. Understand the NATIONAL is a dollar-a-year magazine and is worth all you pay for it. There is nothing to lose — you may secure a handsome award. When you *know* Joe Chapple, you will like his NATIONAL MAGAZINE. Show this to your newsdealer and say there is something for him if he will send for particulars. **Joe Chapple, Editor.**

National Magazine, - Boston, Mass.

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B.C. 8-05

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$1.00 for a year's subscription gives privilege for two entries, etc.

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COMPLETE SELF-INSTRUCTOR
Fully illustrated, on this most interesting and valuable science. Enables the student to master Jiu-Jitsu in the shortest possible time, and is equal to any other system or course of instruction.
Sent postpaid on receipt of **3 DIMES**
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A ROUND CHEST—A HANDSOME FIGURE
What Do We Mean?
It is when the lungs are expanded to their full capacity. Write for Respiration Yoke to-day, $1.00, and get the Figure.
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WOMEN

BOYS **GIRLS**

DO you want to use your spare time by earning $1.00 per hour? or help furnish your home FREE. If so, address

THE BENEFIT CO.
P. O. Box B 2711
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MEN

TOFFEE

If it's Mackintosh's Toffee, it is the delicious old English candy that is taking America by storm. If it isn't Mackintosh's, you don't want it unless you want an imitation.

Mackintosh's Toffee The Original Old English Candy

sold in 10c cartons, my name and face on every package.

No, not a chewing candy. You break off a small bit and let it dissolve in the mouth.

If your dealer smiles and says he hasn't got Mackintosh's, but has an imitation, if you're genuine you will of course try another dealer. I am always ready to send my Toffee by mail. Send ten cents for the first size package or $1.60 for a large four-pound family tin, but try your dealer first. **John Mackintosh, Dept. 24, 78 Hudson St., N. Y.**

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There is no toilet article in the selection of which greater care should be used than a toilet powder.

In these days of imitation and substitution there is so much of inferior goods on the market that it is necessary to be continually on one's guard. Highly scented toilet powders are so frequent as to be a continual source of danger. Such inferior products will often do a permanent injury to a delicate skin. It is far wiser never to take chances with an unknown article. Be sure, rather, to insist upon a trade-marked product of recognized merit. With toilet powder, as with most other lines of goods, it is safer to trust an old-established house with years of experience and a reputation for making only the best. Mennen's Toilet Powder is a trade-marked article, which has for years been recognized by physicians as the best preparation made. The absolute purity of its ingredients and the exercise of the greatest care and skill in its manufacture have given the product of the Mennen Co. a quality of uniform excellence. That is why your physician recommends it.

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All first-class dealers carry Mennen's Toilet Powder and will supply it if you insist. It is supplied by the Government for both Army and Navy.

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The Shortstory Publishing Company

We never read stories unless they are accompanied by full postage for return.

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in Summertime means freedom from **Prickly Heat, Chafing and Sunburn.**

MENNEN'S

Borated Talcum

TOILET POWDER

always brings immediate relief. Be sure that you get the original.

For sale everywhere or by mail, 25 cents. Sample free.

Gerhard Mennen Co.
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THREE SCORE and TEN YEARS is a long life, yet about THIRTY YEARS of it is spent in bed. Then why not make your bed as comfortable as it can be made.

Quilted Mattress Pads will not only make it comfortable, but as they are spread over the mattress, they will protect it, and will keep your bed or baby's crib in a perfect Sanitary condition.

Quilted Mattress Pads wash perfectly, and are as good as new after laundering.

They are sold in all sizes by Dry Goods dealers

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The Start to a Better Salary

Half of getting anywhere is in making the *start*.

If you want to be successful—if you want to better your position—*make the start*. We have made the *start* easy, and we have made the *whole way* to success easy. So easy, in fact, that you will be surprised at the insignificance of the barrier that has kept you back. The start to success is to simply fill in and mail to us the coupon below.

Read over the list of occupations in the coupon, mark X before **the one you want** to enter, fill in and mail the coupon to us. By return mail we will tell you how you can easily, inexpensively, and in your spare time qualify yourself for the position you want and we'll send proof of it in the form of facts as to what we have done for others.

International Correspondence Schools
Box 834 SCRANTON, PA.

Please explain, without further obligation on my part, how I can qualify for a larger salary in the position before which I have marked X

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Stenographer	Elec. Lighting Supt.
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Show Card Writer	Surveyor
Window Trimmer	Stationary Engineer
Mechan'l Draughtsman	Civil Engineer
Ornamental Designer	Build'g Contractor
Illustrator	Architec'l Draughtsman
Civil Service	Architect
Chemist	Bridge Engineer
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Street and No. _____

City _____ State _____

How To Grow Tall

WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO ADD FROM TWO TO FIVE INCHES TO YOUR HEIGHT?

To be a "good height to dance with"? To be "tall enough to see in a crowd"? To improve the symmetry of your figure and add to your general appearance? It is entirely possible for you to increase your height and accomplish these other advantages in your own home without taking any internal treatment, without drugs, without operation, without pain or injury to yourself, without putting yourself to any inconvenience.

FREE TO ANY SHORT PERSON

In order that anyone can learn how to get increase in height, we have prepared an interesting book for fall distribution, explaining why some people are short and others tall, and telling how short people can add from two to five inches to their height, and get all the advantages that good height carries with it. All you have to do is to write for this book, stating your height, your weight, your age, your sex, and we will send you full particulars about the secrets of getting increased height and good figure. Address at once,

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ALLEN S. OLMSTED WINS IN COURT,
The Foot-Ease Trade-Mark Sustained.

Buffalo, N. Y.—The Supreme Court has granted a permanent injunction with costs against Paul B. Hudson and others of New York City, restraining them from making or selling a foot powder which the court declares is an imitation and infringement on "Foot-Ease," now so largely advertised and sold over the country. The owner of the trade-mark "Foot-Ease," is Allen S. Olmsted, of Le Roy, N. Y., and the decision in this suit upholds his trade-mark and renders all parties liable who fraudulently attempt to profit by the extensive "Foot-Ease" advertising, in placing on the market the spurious and similar appearing preparation involved in the case. This the court declares was designed in imitation and infringement of the genuine "Foot-Ease." Similar suits will be brought against others who are now infringing on the Foot-Ease trade-mark rights.

ALLEN S. OLMSTED, Le Roy, N.Y.

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For $5.00 we will deliver to any part of the U.S. a beautiful leather pillow cover, front and back, with four velvet applique Poinsettias, the wonderful California flower, on it; or send 50 cts. for leather mat showing sample of the applique Poinsettia, or write to **THE CALIFORNIA ARTS, 346 E. Colorado St., Pasadena, Cal.**

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....JUST DISCOVERED....
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can easily get richer because every opportunity for money-making is presented to him, but where does the man of moderate means come in? The man of small means is the man I want to talk to. I want him to write to me for information that will show him how he can have a chance to get ahead in the world. I want him to invest small sums with me, from $1 to $10 per month; I will not accept any larger amounts. Send for my booklet which tells about an investment that I can personally recommend—No "fake" fraud or foolishness; just a plain talk to intelligent people. Don't delay—write for my booklet today. I am reliable and can give the best kind of references. **W. C. Hammer, 912 Harrison Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.**

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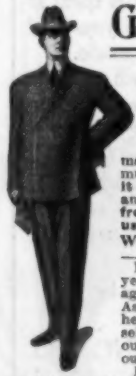

Cut this notice out and mail to us and **if we have no agent in your town** we will send you **FREE**, by return mail, postpaid, **a big assortment of cloth samples**, fashion figures, cloth tape measure, order blanks, etc., and we will name you prices on men's fine made to measure clothing that will be so much lower than you ever heard of that it will surprise you; terms, conditions and privileges that will astonish you; a **free trial offer on a suit for your own use** that will make you wonder.

WE WANT A GOOD AGENT IN YOUR TOWN

He can make $1,500.00 to $1,800.00 per year. If you write us before we get an agent there **you will get a wonderful offer.** As soon as we get an agent in your town he will get a profit on every dollar we sell in his territory. We then turn all our business over to him. **That's why** our agents make so much money.

If you want a suit for yourself, answer quick before we get an agent there, and you will then get all our great inducements, or if you would like to be our agent tell us all about yourself. Address,

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then let us serve you. It stands to reason that we, who run one of the best equipped distilleries in the world, making an average of 9,580 gallons of Pure Whiskey a day, are in a better position to supply your wants than a dealer who has to buy his goods and probably doesn't sell one-half of 9,580 gallons in a whole year. *Just think that over.* HAYNER WHISKEY goes straight to you from our own distillery. That's why it's so good and pure. There is no dealer or middleman to adulterate it. When you buy HAYNER WHISKEY you save the enormous profits of the dealers. That's why it costs less than you pay them for much inferior goods.

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***Count Cassini*, Russian Ambassador.**

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4 FULL QUARTS $3.20 EXPRESS PREPAID

OUR OFFER We will send you in a plain sealed case, with no marks to show contents, FOUR FULL QUART BOTTLES OF HAYNER WHISKEY FOR $3.20, and we will pay the express charges. Take it home and sample it, have your doctor test it—every bottle if you wish. Then if you don't find it just as we say and perfectly satisfactory ship it back to us AT OUR EXPENSE and your $3.20 will be promptly refunded. How could any offer be fairer? YOU don't risk a cent.

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Staunchly built of strong, rigid steel plates with air chambers in each end like a life boat, they are buoyant—strong—safe—speedy—as much better than a wooden boat as a steel greyhound is better than a wooden schooner. They don't leak—crack—dry out—wear out, or become waterlogged and can't sink because of the air chambers.

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Motor Boats, 16 ft. 1½ h.p. $135; 18 ft. 3 h.p. $240. Row Boats $20 up

All boats are sold direct, and every boat is fully guaranteed. Prompt deliveries.

Send for 1905 Catalogue

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A great opportunity to visit one of the greatest grain and fruit raising countries, the largest fishing and lumbering industries, and some of the most aggressive, rich and growing cities in the world.

These low rates are in effect daily, May 23 to Sept. 30.

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Passenger Traffic Manager,
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Pabst Extract

the "Best Tonic." It is simply rich, pure malt—the most healthful, wholesome and upbuilding food known to science. It gently soothes the tired nerves, makes digestion easy, and brings to all the sweet sleep of childhood.

25c at all druggists.

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Pabst Extract Dept.,
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A person can keep the body 8 to 10 degrees cooler in hot weather by

Sensible Breakfast

Try—A little Fruit,
2 pieces of very hard Toast,
A cup of well-made **POSTUM,**
and a dish of not more
than 4 teaspoonfuls of

GRAPE-NUTS,
and Cream.

You can enjoy any kind of weather
and feel well nourished.
"There's a Reason."

Hydrozone

is indorsed and successfully used by physicians in cases of **Ivy Poisoning, Sunburn, Mosquito Bite, Etc.** Its action is prompt. No injurious effects possible.

HYDROZONE is sold by best druggists.

Preparations with similar names are concoctions containing only water, oil of vitriol, sulphurous acid and inert impurities. Not genuine without my signature:

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Chemist and Graduate of the "Ecole Centrale des Arts et Manufactures de Paris, France."

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A FREE TRIAL BOTTLE

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Write legibly. Coupon good only until Sept. 5, '05.

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Address.....

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For Summer Travelling

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MATSUKI

Bamboo Suit Case

with you. The extreme lightness, handsome appearance, and waterproof Japanese seaweed paper lining, which absolutely preserves delicate dresses from dust and moisture, all combine to make it the ideal travelling bag for ladies' use.

Originated and brought to this country by us. Made from specially selected bamboo, so closely woven by hand to a stout bamboo framework that it cannot sag or grow baggy. Made in two sizes: **20 in. long, 11 3-4 wide, 5 deep, weight 24 oz.; 22 1-2 in. long, 14 wide, 5 1-2 deep, weight 30 oz.**

If you cannot obtain them at your dealer's send us his name and we will send you circular and full information of how to get them.

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The lakes and streams in the Adirondack Mountains are full of fish; the woods are inviting, the air is filled with health, and the nights are cool and restful. If you visit this region once, you will go there again. An answer to almost any question in regard to the Adirondacks will be found in No. 20 of the "Four-Track Series," "The Adirondack Mountains and How to Reach Them;" issued by the

NEW YORK CENTRAL

A copy will be mailed free on receipt of a two-cent stamp, by George H. Daniels, General Passenger Agent, Grand Central Station, New York.

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WHY TAKE DAINTY CARE of your mouth and neglect your pores, the myriad mouths of your skin? The pores are the safety-valves of the body. If they be kept in perfect order by constant and intelligent bathing, a very general source of danger from disease is avoided. HAND SAPOLIO is unequalled as a gentle, efficacious pore-opener. It does not gloss them over, or chemically dissolve their health-giving oils, yet clears them thoroughly, by a method of its own.

AFTER A REFRESHING BATH with HAND SAPOLIO every one of the 2,381,248 healthily opened pores of your skin will shout as through a trumpet, "For this relief, much thanks." Five minutes with HAND SAPOLIO equals hours of so-called Health Exercises.

Don't argue, Don't infer, Try it!
Its use is a fine habit,
Its cost a trifle.

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Where Every Prospect Pleases	*Kirk Munroe*
New England Witchcraft	*M. Imlay Taylor*
Time Defying Temples	*Allen Day*
New York From An Air Ship	*Bertha Smith*
A King on American Soil	*T. D. MacGregor*
New Zealand	*T. E. Deane*
The Limited Express—Poem	*Nixon Waterman*
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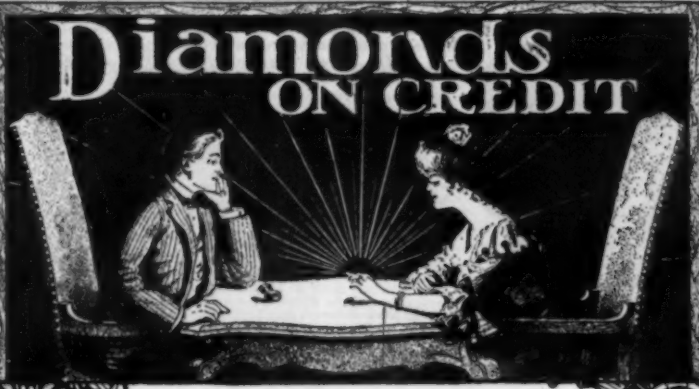

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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Leonard G. Roberts,
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L.S.

Boston, May 1, 1905.

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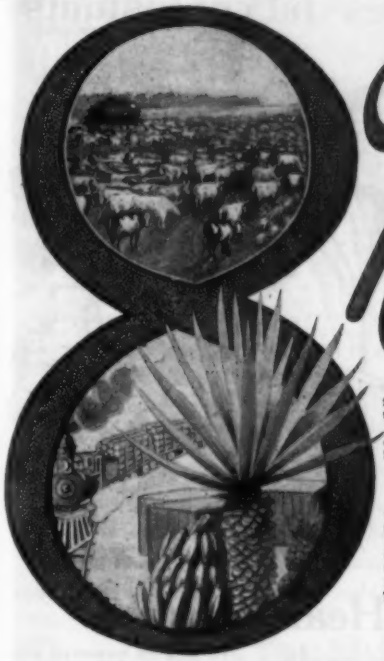

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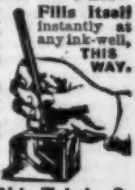

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What is your height worth to you? **Easy for Everybody** **Will you be measured with silver dollars?**

SINCE the first announcement was made that Ten Thousand Dollars had been placed in the First National Bank of Boston to be finally given away for Heart Throbs it is astonishing how many clippings, poems and amusing stories have been entered for prizes.

The contest is so simple and fair that everybody who can read and can appreciate what is good, what is pure, or what brings out the emotions of the heart, can enter his choice in our great competition and receive a "fair and square deal" when the awards are made.

Certainly you can put your hands right on that story you once read and thought it was the *best* you ever saw; it was so awfully funny. And that other one that made the tears start in your eyes and the big lump rise in your throat when you read it. You have these in your pocketbook, or in the old scrap book, or possibly in your writing desk. Somewhere, surely, you have one or two that are worth the huge pile of silver dollars that we are eager to exchange for them.

There are no unreasonable conditions. The clipping or copied extract must not be longer than 500 words. You must hasten to send in your contribution as the contest will close and the prizes begin to be awarded on or before Sept. 1st, 1905. NATIONAL subscribers only are elegible to the competition.

840 PRIZE AWARDS. WILL YOU TAKE ONE?

Besides the first ten prizes, each a stack of silver dollars as high as the head of the prize winner, there are ten awards of $50.00 each for the ten next best stories; twenty awards of $25.00 each for the third grade; one hundred awards of $10.00 each for the fourth grade; two hundred awards of $5.00 each for the fifth grade; and five hundred awards of $1.00 each for the sixth and last grade. **U. S. Senator Allison and Admiral Geo. Dewey will make the final awards on behalf of the judges.** These names are an absolute assurance of the sincere good faith and confidence this "Heart Throb" contest merits from you. If you are not already a regular subscriber, send along the accompanying coupon with your subscription for six months and with one clipping, or a year's subscription and two clippings. Be sure to do so soon as the contest will be closed as soon as 50,000 new subscribers are obtained. Understand the NATIONAL is a dollar-a-year magazine and is worth all you pay for it. There is nothing to lose—you may secure a handsome award. When you *know* Joe Chapple, you will like his NATIONAL MAGAZINE. Show this to your newsdealer and say there is something for him if he will send for particulars. **Joe Chapple, Editor.**

National Magazine, - Boston, Mass.

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B.C.
8-05

Enclosed find 50 cts. and clipping for entry in the "Heart Throb" contest.

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FREE with every suit an extra pair of $5 Trousers; also an extra Fancy Vest and a Leather Handle Patent Gents' or Ladies' Suit Case.

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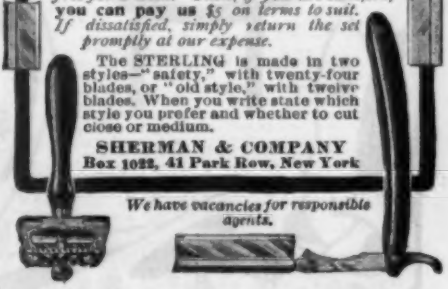

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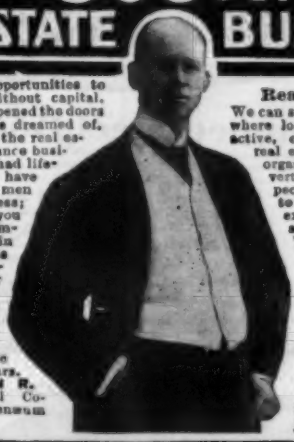

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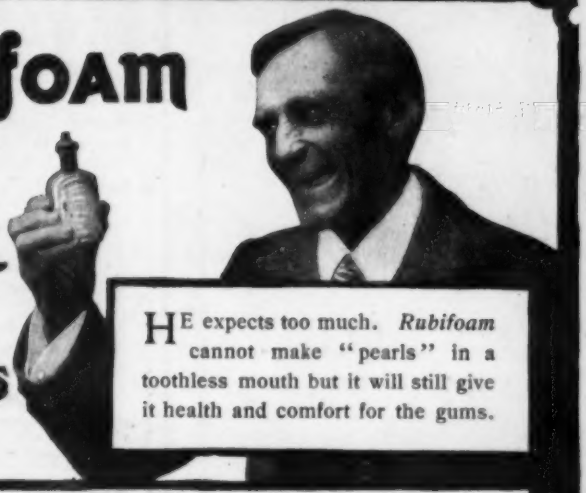


HE expects too much. *Rubifoam* cannot make "pearls" in a toothless mouth but it will still give it health and comfort for the gums.

The time to make teeth beautiful is now—while you have them. Don't delay the use of *Rubifoam*. **25 Cents Everywhere.**

Sample for a 2-cent Stamp. E. W. HOYT & CO., Lowell, Mass.

REVERSIBLE

Linene

Collars and Cuffs

Have You Worn Them?

Not "celluloid"—not "paper collars"—but made of fine cloth, exactly resemble fashionable linen goods and cost of dealers, for box of ten, 25 cents (2½ cents each).

No Washing or Ironing

When soiled discard. **By mail 10 collars or 5 prs. cuffs for 30 cents.** Sample collar or pair cuffs for 6 cents in U. S. stamps. Give size and style.

REVERSIBLE COLLAR CO., Dept. O, Boston.

QUILTED MATTRESS PADS

THREE SCORE and TEN YEARS is a long life, yet about THIRTY YEARS of it is spent in bed. Then why not make your bed as comfortable as it can be made.

Quilted Mattress Pads will not only make it comfortable, but as they are spread over the mattress, they will protect it, and will keep your bed or baby's crib in a perfect Sanitary condition.

Quilted Mattress Pads wash perfectly, and are as good as new after laundering.

They are sold in all sizes by Dry Goods dealers

EXCELSIOR QUILTING CO.
15 Laight Street : : : New York

DISABLED

It's tough luck

when a husky man is disabled by failure of something he depends on.

Many an athlete and business man is "put away" by failure of his heart caused by coffee drinking. If not heart, perhaps stomach or kidneys. When the oar begins to show a little crack, chuck it quick and in time. When symptoms of heart, stomach, kidney or nervous troubles show, quit coffee entirely and use Postum.

"There's a reason" for

POSTUM

Hydrozone

CURES

ECZEMA and kindred skin diseases. Indorsed by the medical profession and sold by leading druggists. **HYDROZONE,** although harmless, is the most powerful germicide. Not genuine without my signature:

Charles Marchand

87 Prince Street, New York.

Chemist and Graduate of the "Ecole Centrale des Arts et Manufactures de Paris, France."

Preparations with similar names are concoctions of water, containing oil of vitriol, sulphurous acid and inert impurities.

A FREE TRIAL BOTTLE

of **HYDROZONE,** sufficient to demonstrate its healing properties, will be sent on receipt of attached coupon. (Name your druggist.) Requests without coupon ignored. Only one free bottle to a family.

Write legibly. Coupon good only until October 5, '05.

Name.....

Address.....

19 City.....State.....

Druggist.....

"The groves were God's first temples."

SEPTEMBER IN THE ADIRONDACKS.

No finer place in September can be found than the Adirondacks. The air is cool and bracing, the scenery beautiful, and they can be reached in a night from Boston, New York or Niagara Falls. All parts of the Adirondacks are reached by the

NEW YORK CENTRAL LINES

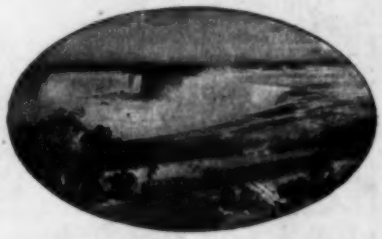
A copy of No. 20 of the "Four-Track Series," "The Adirondacks and How to Reach Them," will be sent free on receipt of a 2-cent stamp by George H. Daniels, General Passenger Agent, New York Central R. R., Grand Central Station, New York.

MICHIGAN CENTRAL

"The Niagara Falls Route."

BETWEEN

Chicago, Detroit, Niagara Falls, Buffalo, New York, Boston, and the East and Northern Michigan Points



All trains passing Niagara Falls by day run directly by and in full view of the entire Panorama of the Falls, stopping 5 minutes at Falls View.

NEW YORK CENTRAL LINES

C. F. Daly
Pass'r Traffic Mgr.

O. W. Ruggles
Gen'l Pass'r & Tkt. Agt.

Chicago

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